

**red  
eye**

**Tuesday**  
NOVEMBER 11, 2008

[redeyechicago.com](http://redeyechicago.com)

A Chicago Tribune publication

★ FREE ★

REDEYE ILLUSTRATION

# D.C. OR BUST

*Are you going to Obama's inauguration?  
Well, good luck getting a ticket **6-7***



Share your CTA  
West Side story **4**

Today is about  
the heroes **10**

Everyone wants to  
sound like T-Pain **28**

New spots,  
new deals **21**

# 2do

» Find the Tribune's special Obama section in Tuesday's paper



## To buy

Due to popular demand, the Tribune's special Obama section, "Obama's Rise," that ran Sunday will be included in all newsstand copies Tuesday.

## To detox

Get advice on how to detox from fitness and nutrition expert Bonita Kindle with a free seminar and gift bag from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday at The Vitamin Shoppe (2747 N. Clark St.) R.S.V.P.: 773-244-8202.

## To clown

Audition for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Clown College from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Wednesday at Allstate Arena (6920 N. Manheim Rd., Rosemont) and you could be chosen for a one-year contract to perform with the circus.

## To enter

RedEye's second annual "Chicago's Most Beautiful Dog" tourney is under way. Enter your dog by visiting [redeyechicago.com/dogs](http://redeyechicago.com/dogs), or just stop by to look at photos of every nominee.



## random dilemma

We asked. You responded. Here are the results from Friday's Random Dilemma, in which we asked if you would rather bungee-jump naked or mountain climb naked.

**74%**

Bungee-jump naked

**26%**

Mountain climb naked

## aye, aye caption

Text us a funny caption for the photo to the left and we'll print the best in Wednesday's RedEye. To give it a shot text the word "caption" followed by your brief caption and your name to **47383**. Good luck!



### FRIDAY'S WINNER

**"I am Joe Lieberman. Rebel without a caucus."** —ERIK OZER

**Here's another:** Which would you rather do? Text "random" and the number of your response to **47383**. You'll get the poll results instantly.

**Get blindsided by Brian Urlacher (1) OR Get hit in the ribs by a Kerry Wood fastball (2)**

**45 37**

### TODAY'S FORECAST

Mostly cloudy, with rain later



WED.

**46**  
41

Chance of rain



THU.

**49**  
42

Maybe rain again



FRI.

**44**  
30

Same ol' story



SAT.

**40**  
29

Chance of rain, snow

# ellehomme

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# FIRST IMPRESSIONS

## BUSH, OBAMA MEET AT THE WHITE HOUSE TO DISCUSS COURSE OF THE NATION

**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON** The Bushes welcomed the Obamas to the White House on Monday, offering a symbolic glimpse of what's in store for the country: a new first family along with a new administration.

President Bush and President-elect Obama met in the Oval Office, their first face-to-face session, to talk about the future of the country, while First Lady Laura Bush and Obama's wife, Michelle, held their own meeting in the White House residence.

The Obamas arrived at the South Portico 11 minutes early with Bush and the first lady waiting for them. Laura Bush and Michelle Obama enjoyed a warm greeting, while the president and his successor exchanged smiles and a handshake.

Taking a bit of prerogative, the president-elect put his left hand on Bush's back as the two couples entered the Diplomatic Reception Room.

The two leaders offered no public comments.

It was the president-elect's first visit to the White House since his dominant election victory, and his first visit ever to the Oval Office.

The scene was a sunny fall day with moderate temperatures and colorful, fading autumn leaves.

Laura Bush was to give Michelle Obama a tour of the first family's living quarters, including the bedrooms used by children of past presidents. White House press secretary Dana Perino said the two women were expected to talk about living in one of the world's most famous building, from family life to the help provided by executive staff.

Obama started his day in Chicago, dropping his two daughters, Malia, 10, and Sasha, 7, at school, each with a kiss, and then going to a gym for a workout.



President-elect Barack Obama arrives Monday at the White House for a visit with President Bush. ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/TRIBUNE

Josh Bolten, Bush's chief of staff, said Bush and Obama likely each had a list of issues to go down, likely including the financial crisis and the war in Iraq.

"I know the president will want to convey to President-elect Obama his sense of how to deal with some of the most important issues of the day," said Bolten, interviewed on C-SPAN by reporters from The Associated Press and The Washington Post. "But exactly how he does that, I don't know, and I don't think anybody will know."

## Git-no?

President-elect Obama's advisers are quietly crafting a proposal to ship dozens, if not hundreds, of imprisoned terrorism suspects to the U.S. to face criminal trials, a plan that would make good on his promise to close the Guantanamo Bay prison but could require creation of a controversial new system of justice.

Under plans being put together in Obama's

camp, some detainees would be released and many others would be prosecuted in U.S. criminal courts. A third group—the ones whose cases are most entangled in highly classified information—might have to go before a new court designed especially to handle sensitive national security cases, according to advisers and Democrats involved in the talks.

Advisers participating directly in the planning spoke on condition of anonymity because the plans aren't final. AP

# Signed, sealed, delivered—for a price

## Chicago Tribune

Just about anything with President-elect Obama's name on it is worth money these days, especially if he wrote it himself.

Following Obama's election last week as the first African-American president, entrepreneurs are offering all sorts of items bearing his autograph. Caution: Some of the books, balls and magazines for sale online will be the work of forgers.

And appraisers aren't experienced yet in separating out the real Obama from the fake, said Daniel Weinberg, who sells historical documents and signatures at the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, 357 W. Chicago Ave.

Right now, an authentic Obama signature is probably worth \$250 to \$350, Weinberg says, though the price of some items now for sale or up for bid are as much as 10 times higher.

A few items reportedly autographed by Obama that were available on the Internet in recent days:

- » A Mad Magazine featuring an Obama-like Alfred E. Neuman on the cover holding a banner saying, "Yes, We Can't," \$3,500.
- » A gray Chicago Cubs road jersey, \$2,400. (What would Obama's fellow White Sox fans say?)
- » Copies of his books, "Dreams From My

Father" and "The Audacity of Hope," ranging from \$399.99 to \$2,475.

» An official major-league baseball, \$300.

» A copy of the Wednesday Chicago Sun-Times, \$440. A note attached to the offer on eBay said, "I was at the [Grant Park] rally [on Tuesday] and my aunt who works for his campaign and was up close and got this newspaper sign[ed]."

Just remember the saying: Buyer beware.

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## going public

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KYLES  
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### TELL US

What do you think of the CTA's latest "L" and bus experiments? Share your comment on that or any other transit issue with [goingpublic@tribune.com](mailto:goingpublic@tribune.com). Please include your full name, age and neighborhood, as we may include it in "Hey, CTA!"

» What's the big idea? Have you come up with a way to improve the CTA—whether it's music piped into trains or a lending library at "L" stations? Send your big ideas to Kyra Kyles at [goingpublic@tribune.com](mailto:goingpublic@tribune.com). Also, stop by her blog at [redeyechicago.com/ctablog](http://redeyechicago.com/ctablog).

# Let the CTA know if experiments work

It's time to share your West Side story.

On Thursday, the CTA is holding a public meeting to discuss a number of West Side service additions and changes instituted in 2006, including the experimental Pink Line and adjustments to bus routes including the No. 12-Roosevelt, No. 90-Harlem and No. 65-Grand.

The transit agency board is thinking about making these bus and "L" experiments permanent, so interested public transit parties better hustle on over to the meeting 6 p.m. at the 10th Police District office on 3315 W. Ogden Ave. and sound off.

This is your chance, so speak now, or hold your public transit peace.

If you can't show up in person and don't have access to CNN's Election-Night hologram technology, send your suggestions in writing to [ctaboard@transitchicago.com](mailto:ctaboard@transitchicago.com) until Nov. 18.

Riders owe it to themselves to speak up on the service additions and adjustments the CTA cooks up in its bus and "L" lab. Some in the recent past have been great while others have been, well, not so great.

Let's reminisce about prior examples of mass transit mad science and grade them with "go" (good), "standing, waiting for signals ahead" (neutral) and "stop" (bad).

Feel free to borrow these ratings if you meet up with or e-mail the CTA board about West Side service.

### Seatless 'L' cars

In September, the CTA decided to toy with the concept of removing most of the seats from at least two "L" cars during rush hour, in an effort to increase capacity. The Brown Line became the guinea pig for a service adjustment that met with boos from some and accolades from others.

**Rating:** Standing, waiting for signals ahead.

Personally, because the odds of scoring a seat during Brown Line rush already are low, it's not appealing to me to have those hopes dashed even further. But I'm willing to have my mind changed by any commuters who are embracing this experiment.

### Next-bus tracker

"Going Public" hearts this technology that allows riders with Internet-enabled devices to zero in on the location of buses along their routes at [ctabustracker.com](http://ctabustracker.com).

Live on 75 of 153 routes, next-bus tracker started out as a pilot program on the No. 20-Madison route back in August of 2006.

The system hasn't solved bus bunching, at least according to riders who e-mail and call "Going Public" about the approaching convoys they can clearly see on their tracker screens. But the GPS-enabled wizardry give riders a heads up as to how quickly they need to get to their stops, a huge boon come the colder weather ahead.

**Rating:** Go. Can't wait to see this spread to the remaining bus routes by the end of next year.



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## Road trip!

Determined to drive from Chicago to Washington, D.C., for the Jan. 20 Inauguration Day festivities? Here are stops you might make if you're going the I-80 route.

### CHICAGO

**1** Oh trust us, you'll be stopped on the Dan Ryan.

### TOLEDO, OHIO

**2** Nice place for a potty break and a corn dog.

### CLEVELAND

**3** See the Rock 'N Roll Hall of Fame! And the most miserable football fans on Earth!

### PITTSBURGH

**4** The cheesesteaks and salads are covered in french fries.

### BALTIMORE

**5** You can say you saw where "The Wire" filmed. Like everyone who visits Baltimore says.

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

**6** Remember: Keep it clean. No call girls.

# Brokers making hundreds off 'ticket to nothing'

### Chicago Tribune

The hottest ticket of 2009 can't be reserved yet, hasn't been distributed and is supposed to be free.

But on Monday, tickets for President-elect Obama's inaugural events were selling for up to \$10,858 apiece.

Ticket brokers wouldn't say where the tickets were coming from, and the committee in charge of the main event emphasized that none have been sent out yet. All 240,000 tickets to the swearing-in are sitting in a locked room, and won't be released for months.

In effect, the brokers are selling a promise of a ticket, banking on the ability to get a ticket at a lower price than they charge for it.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), chairwoman of the Joint Congressional

Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, said she is drafting a bill to ban sales of inauguration tickets, while her committee is sending a stern letter to Capitol employees outlining ethics rules about making money from access to power, and inaugural tickets.

"Any member of Congress is prohibited from profiting by their position," said Carole Florman, inaugural committee spokeswoman. "A letter is going out to them reminding them of that. Soon."

The individual committees organizing events like parades and inaugural galas haven't even formed yet, Florman said.

Indeed, with so much up in the air about the Jan. 20 festivities, there seemed to be only two certainties Monday:

Inaugurating the first African-American

U.S. president would be historic.

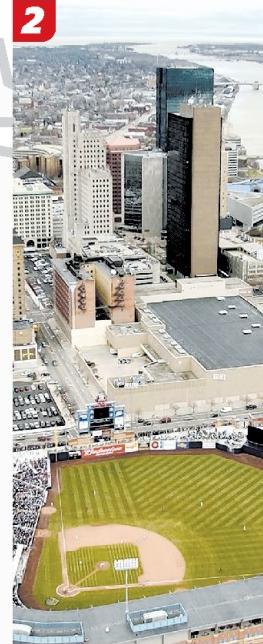
And second, everyone wanted a ticket.

**Greatseats.com** offered spots at the yet-to-be-planned inaugural parade for between \$495 and \$1,815, with caveats that none are available now. StubHub offered parade tickets for \$681 to \$1,025, with a money-back guarantee.

They've already sold "several," said StubHub spokeswoman Vanessa Daniele, plus a pair of tickets for the swearing-in ceremony that together cost \$21,716.

"I think it's shocking," said Florman, who said the brokers were selling "a ticket to nothing" because they didn't have any tickets yet.

Only members of Congress can really dole them out, she said. They get them Jan. 19, a day before the event.



4

5

6

# Who needs a ticket?

**Chicagoans among 1.5 million scrambling to get to D.C. for front-row view of history**

## Chicago Tribune

Airlines are jacking up fares, some hotels are turning people away, and congressional offices say it will be impossible to satisfy the unprecedented demand for tickets to President-elect Obama's inauguration.

Yet people will not be deterred. Tickets or no tickets, they're going.

More than 1.5 million are expected to pour into Washington for Obama's swearing-in—nearly three times the number who attended the 2005 inauguration events, said William Hanbury, president of Destination D.C., the city's tourism department.

In the Chicago area, residents are scrambling to make their Jan. 20 arrangements.

Keith Chambers and his wife already have reserved six hotel rooms in the nation's capital and they've bought their plane tickets.

Chambers, a trustee for the village of South Holland, booked rooms right after the Democratic National Convention.

"I knew Obama was on a destined chart," he said. "There was nothing to prevent this from happening. My wife and I were confident in our faith and confident in how the campaign was run. There was never any doubt in our minds."

Right after the election, he began lobbying for tickets to the inaugural events. So far, four of the six hotel rooms he secured have been claimed by his friends and family. He's holding on to the other two for people who might make up their minds later.

"I don't care if I'm a block away or 10 miles away," Chambers said. "I need to be in the presence of this moment."

Dunbar High School principal Barbara Hill has been making phone calls and sending e-mails to raise money to send a group of students to witness the swearing-in.

"It's a time in history that we'll never be able to get back," said Hill, who hopes Dunbar's marching band will get to participate in the parade. "We have a sense of pride about Obama. He's from Chicago and the South Side. We want to be a part of this great event."

Chicagoans aren't the only ones clamoring to get to Washington. At Brock Tours and Travel, in Decatur, Ga., they sold out of a \$1,300 travel package days after Obama's win.

That package doesn't include tickets to inaugural events, but people jumped at the deal anyway, said Sandy Duncan, an agent with the company.

The explosion of interest has sent fares soaring on flights to the nation's capital. Ticket prices for economy seats from Chicago to Washington-area airports on the dates sur-



A sign outside the U.S. Capitol at dawn notes that the area is closed for construction of the 2009 presidential inauguration site in Washington D.C. GETTY IMAGES



rounding the inauguration range from a low of \$436 round-trip on discounter Southwest Airlines to \$1,222 on US Airways, according to [orbitz.com](#). That's a hefty premium. A week earlier, seats on the same flights were selling for about \$200 round-trip.

Those who can afford to fly there may have trouble finding a place to stay. The Washington metro area's 95,000 hotel rooms are filling up fast, and some hotels are already sold out. Would-be visitors are calling hotels as far away as Wilmington, Del.

On Monday night, there were plenty of condos on Craigslist available for rent—for \$10,000 for inauguration week.

And then there's the problem of tickets.

The office of Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-Ill.) created a Web site to handle requests, but it was jammed Monday, Jackson's spokesman Rick Bryant said. Among those on the list asking for tickets were aldermen, current and retired south suburban mayors and government leaders.

Rep. Bobby Rush (D-Ill.) said his office had been overwhelmed with more than 2,000 calls, and he

put out an exasperated statement.

"Because my staff continues to be inundated with an unprecedented level of requests for this event, I want my constituents to know that our office does not have any tickets to distribute," he said. "In fact, we only expect to receive a small number of tickets the week before the event. I urge my constituents to keep this in mind as they make their travel plans."

Dr. Renee Matthews, a physician from Bronzeville, doesn't yet have a ticket, of course, and she hasn't yet booked transportation, but she's put her relatives in the Washington area on notice: Expect a few house guests in January.

Matthews' parents are planning to drive to the capital from their home in Farmington Hills, Mich. Her sister and two closest girlfriends will take the train down from New Jersey and New York.

"I will not miss it," Matthews said. "The first time ... an African-American president ... oh, no, I won't miss it."

She expects it to be reminiscent of other great public gatherings she's heard stories about, like the 1963 March on Washington. For so many, it also will be like a family reunion.

"I've only spoken to one person who said they weren't sure they are going. Everyone I know will be there," she said.



Hail  
to the  
Tweeters

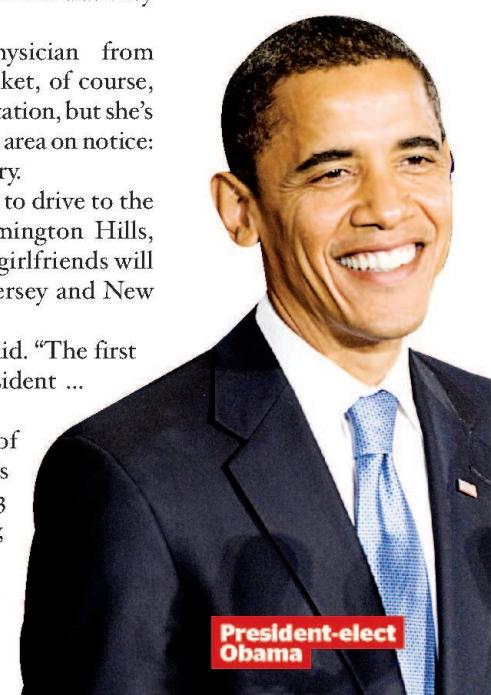
**@redeyechicago**  
asked its followers for their opinions on the inauguration. Here's what they said.

**neosoul**  
Question is are they real tickets or imposters! Very interesting!

**twobitme**  
I'd like to go, really I would, but 21K for 2 tickets is not the kind of CHANGE I have sitting around in a cup.

**asprin1**  
I'm planning on going—I don't have tickets, but I will be in DC, particularly around the areas where the activists gather.

**goldentrain**  
I'm hoping to be at the inauguration! I'm from Maryland and I'm going to be home then, so hopefully!



**President-elect  
Obama**

# chicago

## Old man and the Shedd

### 'Granddad' celebrates 75th year at aquarium

**Chicago Tribune**

"Granddad" the Australian lungfish is so old ...  
How old is he?

He's so old that he's being honored as a pivotal part of Chicago history.

Since 1933, when "Granddad" took up residence at the aquarium, he has lured crowds of World's Fair visitors, helped establish a mentoring program and was pivotal in opening up a relationship with Australia.

"He's the one that started it all," said Debra Fassnacht, executive vice president of the Shedd. "He's the reason why Shedd has hosted Australian soccer teams."

Granddad celebrated his 75th anniversary at the Shedd on Monday, and aquarium officials say the 4-foot, 25-pound scaly creature is the oldest fish in any public aquarium in the world—but officials still don't know his real age.

The Shedd's former director, Walter Chute, wanting to attract visitors to the 1933 World's Fair, arranged for Granddad's relocation from the Taronga Zoo in Sydney. More than 4.5 million people visited during the fair's two year run, Fassnacht said.

Granddad also is partly responsible for establishing the Steve Irwin Fellowship, a teen mentorship program that sends a high school student interested in science to Sydney to work at the Taronga Zoo.

Although Monday's event was a celebration, Granddad had all the exuberance of, well, a really old fish.

"Normally they're just really a nice slow fish," said Bill Gwozdz, a senior aquarist. "Unfortunately it makes for an unexciting feeding."

Granddad was content at the bottom of the tank as younger lungfish and even a turtle, swam toward the top for their meal of shrimp and chopped clams.

In honor of Granddad, seniors can visit the Shedd free Thursday through Sunday.

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Jorge Montes (from left), chairman of the Illinois Prisoner Review Board, hearing officer Jenetta Cardine and Ken Tupy, the board's chief council, address the media Monday after a parole hearing for William Balfour. JOHN SMIERCIAK/TRIBUNE

## Balfour staying put

### Board decides suspect in Hudson murders must remain in prison

**Chicago Tribune**

The man police have called a suspect in the murder of three members of actress Jennifer Hudson's family will remain in prison while investigators continue to investigate the triple slaying.

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board ruled Monday that there was reason to believe William Balfour, 27, had violated his parole and should be kept in custody pending a full hearing.

The major reason for that was his girlfriend, identified as Shonta Cathey, had said that she had seen him with a gun that matched the murder weapon, according to Jorge Montes, chairman of the review board.

"It's a very serious allegation ...," Montes said.

In addition, the board said he had violated parole by being in places where drugs were sold. That stems from a June 19 drug arrest, but Balfour's parole was not revoked at that time.

During the hearing, Balfour protested the use of the evidence that authorities presented to hold him, Montes said. Balfour was not represented by a lawyer.



**Balfour**

Another full hearing to decide whether to revoke Balfour's parole was set for Dec. 3.

Balfour, who is married to the Oscar-winning actress' sister, Julia Hudson, has been on parole for a 1999 attempted murder conviction.

After he was questioned by Chicago detectives for 48 hours, his parole was revoked following the Oct. 24 murders of his estranged wife's brother, mother and 7-year-old son. He has not been charged in the case. He has been held at Stateville Correctional Center outside Joliet since Oct. 26.

Balfour acknowledged being at the Hudson's Englewood home on the morning that the actress' mother, Darnell Donerson, and her brother, Jason Hudson, were gunned down inside the house, law enforcement sources said.

Julia Hudson's son, Julian, was abducted from the home and his body discovered three days later, shot twice in the head and slumped in the back of Jason Hudson's Chevy Suburban on a West Side street.

Balfour's current girlfriend also told police that he told her he had been involved in the killings of Donerson and Hudson, sources said.

**After he was questioned by Chicago detectives for 48 hours, William Balfour's parole was revoked following the Oct. 24 murders of his estranged wife's brother, mother and 7-year-old son. He has not been charged in the case.**



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- Bucket Seats
- 7 Passenger Seating
- Sunscreen Glass
- Floor Mats
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- Universal Garage Door Opener
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- 8-way Power Seat
- 2nd Row Power Windows
- Power Heated Mirrors
- Fog Lamps
- Steering Wheel Mounted Audio Controls
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10

Dan Fickel, profiled in a 2007 RedEye story, began law school at the University of Chicago in 2002. Fickel first went to Iraq in 2004, and currently is stationed in Samarra with an economic development team. He plans to graduate from the Law School in 2009.

using terrorism to deny freedom of religion, freedom of speech and freedom from want and fear, you will need those soldiers, those new ranks of veterans, young men and women from your generation out on the frontier of freedom. Today you honor them.

I have known and served with those men and women. I have watched them fall. I have cried by myself at night at the loss of friends I will never forget. But I have never seen anything as beautiful as your free American soldier, upright and strong, believing in your country and your principles, and going forward into the darkness to meet your enemies.

Is it worth it? That's an impossible question. Try asking the terrorists who are losing. **DAN FICKEL IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.**

## CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY

Veterans Day, a federal holiday marking the anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I in 1918, will be observed Tuesday. These public services will be affected:

**Schools:** Many will be closed; check with local offices.

**Government offices:** Most buildings will be closed.

**Postal service:** Post office branches will be closed. There will be no mail delivery, except for Express Mail.

**Courts:** All but Cook County Holiday Bond Court are closed.

**Banks:** Major banks will be closed.

**Garbage:** Trash will be picked up.

**Transit:** CTA, Metra and Pace will be running on normal weekday schedules.

**Libraries:** All Chicago Public Library branches will be open during regular hours.

# City plans to cut 29 jobs at Chicago airports

Mayor Daley's administration plans to eliminate the jobs of more than two dozen people who translate and answer questions for international visitors to the city's airports.

While cutting as many as 29 "airport customer services representatives," Daley's proposed 2009 budget calls for keeping—and giving raises to—several managers who are above the greeters in the Aviation Department hierarchy.

City budget records show that the administration plans to cut the Aviation Department's "external communications" staff from 41 employees to 10. But the section would still retain a deputy commissioner and a marketing director, each of whom would make more than \$114,000 a year, as well as a \$94,848-a-year customer services manager.

"That seems like misplaced priori-

ties," Ald. Brendan Reilly (42nd) said Monday. "Reductions at management level should follow reductions of front-line staff."

The 29 greeters, who are paid annual salaries between \$38,000 and \$58,000, say their departures would leave the airport staff without valuable multilingual talent that is necessary to properly welcome foreign visitors to Chicago.



Honoring one of their own

Under brilliant blue skies, hundreds of people, many of them Chicago Police officers in uniform, gathered at Rockefeller Chapel on the University of Chicago campus Monday for the funeral of Joseph Airhart Jr., a police detective who died seven years after he was shot in the head while trying to arrest a robbery suspect.

**TOM VAN DYKE/TRIBUNE**

## Ex-deputy charged in fatal crash

A former Cook County sheriff's deputy charged with drunken driving was being held in lieu of \$50,000 bail Monday in connection with the weekend death of his 8-year-old grandnephew. Richard Gorney, 71, of the 5600 block of North Kenneth Avenue, was charged, police said. Troy Evers, 8, of Roselle was ejected when the car Gorney was driving slammed into a house, officials said.

## Missing girl found

A 3½-year-old girl who was the subject of an intensive search after she left a CVS pharmacy on the Northwest Side on Monday with a woman she encountered on the sidewalk was found later in the evening and taken to a hospital, authorities said. The girl was found about eight blocks away at Kostner and Wellington Avenues, outside in near-freezing temperatures, said police spokesman John Mirabelli.

## Shooting suspect dies after arrest

A suspect arrested shortly after a man was shot to death on the West Side on Sunday afternoon died after he began having difficulty breathing and police officers took him to a hospital, authorities said Monday. The final ruling on the death of Jermaine Johnson, 34, was inconclusive and was pending toxicology results, officials said. The incident unfolded Sunday when Anthony White, 43, was shot in the 100 block of South Mayfield Avenue in Austin, police said.

## DIGIT

# \$800 million

A staggering economy is eating away at state budget revenue, creating what could be a budget hole of \$800 million or more, the Blagojevich administration warned Monday.

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## 1 AIG bailout balloons

In a record bailout of a private company, the government on Monday provided a new \$150 billion financial-rescue package to insurance giant American International Group, including \$40 billion for partial ownership. U.S. Treasury Interim Assistant Secretary Neel Kashkari (above) said the bailout was needed to preserve the stability of the financial markets. The action was taken as it became clear that an original lifeline thrown to AIG in September would be insufficient. The \$40 billion infusion comes from the \$700 billion bailout package. As part of the new arrangement, the Federal Reserve is reducing a \$85 billion loan it had made available to AIG to \$60 billion.

## 2 Circuit breaker?

Circuit City Stores filed for bankruptcy protection on Monday as analysts question whether the nation's second-biggest electronics retailer will be able to survive. The company also said it cut 700 more jobs at its Richmond, Va., headquarters.

## 3 Bush meets troops

President Bush on Monday visited wounded U.S. troops and said their treatment and progress was inspiring. He met with 18 patients and presented six Purple Hearts during his stop at the National Naval Medical Center.

## 4 Nuke fears in Syria

Diplomats say uranium has been found in environmental samples from a Syrian site bombed by Israel on suspicion it was a covert nuclear reactor. The diplomats say the discovery merits further investigation.

## 5 Palin's closet check

Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin spent part of the weekend going through her clothing to determine what belongs to the Republican Party after it spent \$150,000-plus on a wardrobe for the VP nominee, Palin's dad said.

## 6 Nuns kidnapped

Gunmen firing automatic weapons dragged two Italian Roman Catholic nuns from their home in rural Kenya on Monday and drove them into lawless Somalia in a rare cross-border kidnapping, officials said. The nuns, 60 and 67, were working on health programs.

Workers begin clearing up the debris of several restaurants Monday following a twin bombing when a car first detonated in Baghdad, followed by a suicide bomber. **GETTY IMAGES**



# Deadliest blasts in months

**7 BAGHDAD** A suicide bomber struck Monday in a crowd that had gathered where an explosion moments earlier damaged a bus full of schoolgirls, with both blasts killing at least 31 people and wounding 71 others, officials said.

Also Monday, a female suicide bomber believed to be in her teens attacked a security checkpoint in downtown Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, killing five people including a local leader of Sunni group opposed to Al Qaeda, police said. Fifteen other people were

wounded in that explosion.

The twin Baghdad blasts—the deadliest in the city in months—occurred moments apart during the morning rush hour in the mostly Shiite Kasra section of the Azamiyah district in the northern part of the Iraqi capital.

Police said the first explosion damaged a minibus carrying young girls to school. The second happened when a suicide bomber detonated an explosive belt in the middle of a crowd that had gathered around the vehicle.

## MESSAGE?

An Interior Ministry official speculated that extremists may have sought to "send a message" to President-elect Obama about "the real situation in Iraq," pressure the government not to sign a new security agreement with the U.S. or embarrass the ruling parties ahead of regional elections in January. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was offering speculation.



## iPhone is No. 1

Apple's iPhone 3G became the top-selling mobile handset for U.S. adults in the third quarter, ending the Motorola Razr's long reign and signaling a shift in consumer tastes toward more feature-laden phones, according to new data from market research firm NPD Group. Motorola's Razr V3 had sat at the top of NPD's ranking for the last 12 quarters, NPD Group said Monday.



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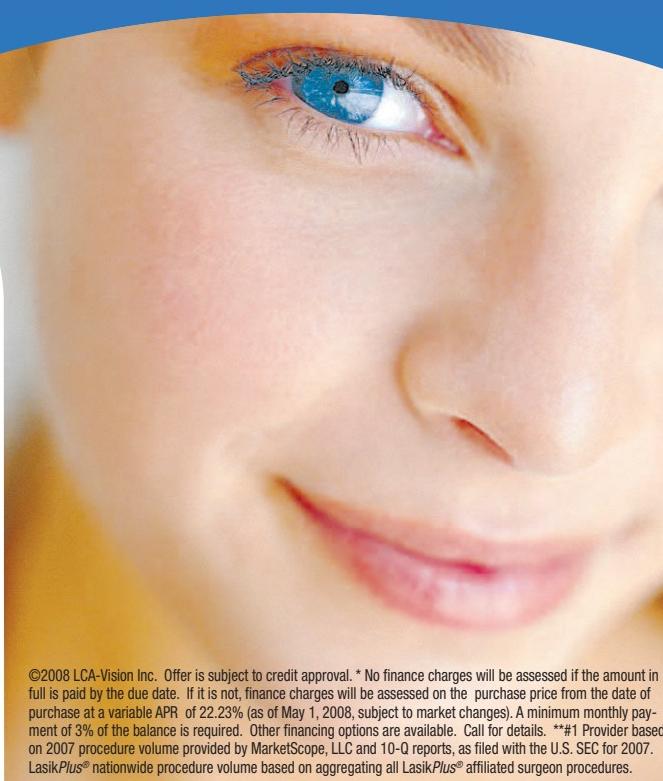
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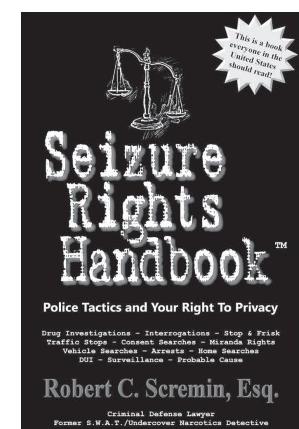
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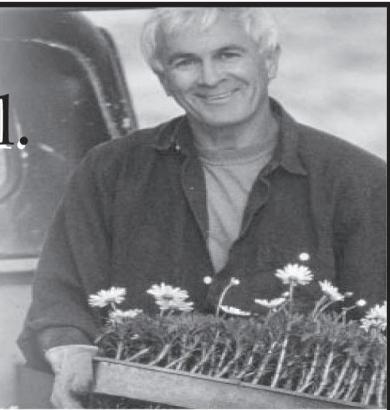
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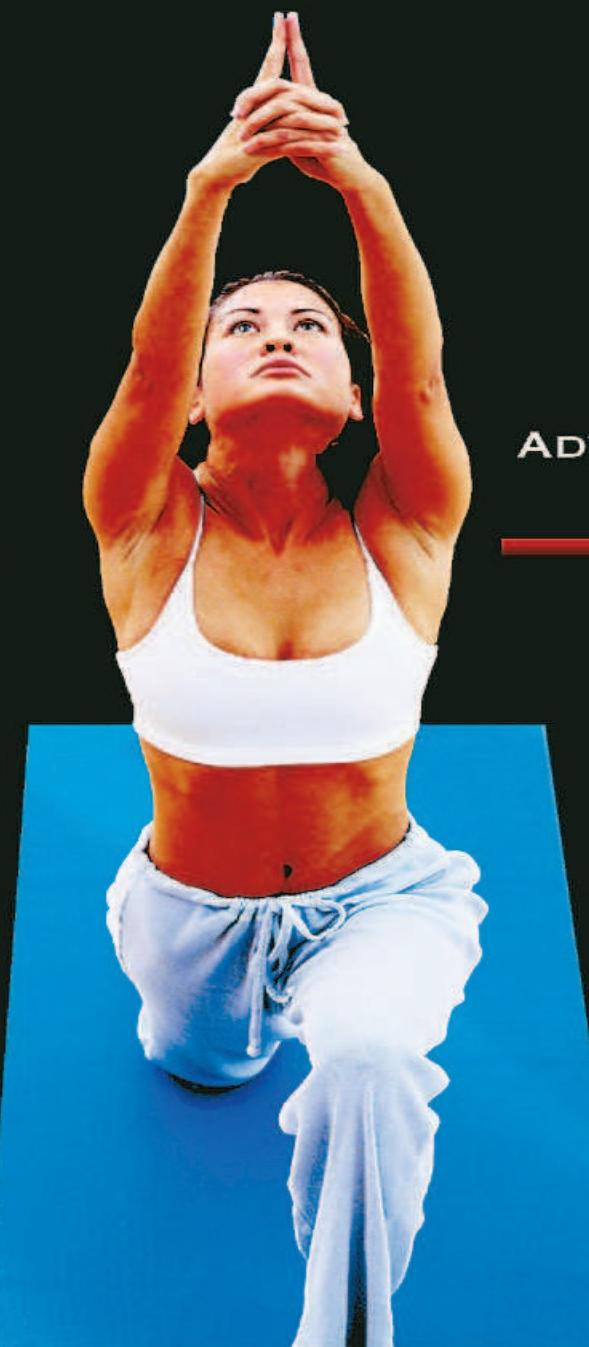
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# sports

# 'Hawks soar again



**“Everyone talked about it [the negative], the games on television—or lack thereof—and not about the team’s performance.”**

**W. ROCKWELL “ROCKY” WIRTZ**  
new Blackhawks chairman

## Hockey is a hot ticket in town again after years of mediocrity

**Associated Press**

Only two years ago, there were good seats available for pretty much every Blackhawks game. Lots and lots of them. Heck, in some spots, you could practically have your own section.

Nowadays, the Blackhawks are such a hot ticket even seats way up high in the United Center are filled.

“It’s great to see this many people here,” Brian Jack said, walking with his 8-year-old son, Kevin, through the crowded concourse before last Monday’s win over the Colorado Avalanche. “It’s nice to see energy in the building. There’s electricity in the air.”

A year after the season-ticket base dwindled to 3,400, it’s now a franchise-record 14,000. A regular-season record 22,690 attended the Oct. 25 game against the Red Wings. Merchandise sales are up a whopping 60 percent from last year.

The Blackhawks are winning on the ice, too, off to their best start since 2001-02. They are on a four-game winning streak and have won six of their last eight. They are stocked with young talent, including Patrick Kane, the No. 1 pick in the 2007 draft and rookie of the year last season, and Jonathan Toews.

“You used to hear, ‘No one cares about the Hawks.’ We do, and more people are now,” longtime fan Eli Babich said. “It’s slowly becoming a hockey town like it was in the ’70s, ’80s, even the early ’90s.”

An Original Six franchise, the Blackhawks have a long and proud history in Chicago. Some of the sport’s greatest names played here—Bobby Hull, Stan Mikita, Tony Esposito,

Chris Chelios—and the team has won three Stanley Cups.

But after losing the 1992 Stanley Cup Finals to Pittsburgh, the franchise began a slow, painful decline.

The team missed the playoffs in 1998 for the first time in 29 years. They have been back only one time since.

In 2004, ESPN called the Blackhawks the worst franchise in professional sports.

“The last few years have been downright painful,” said Phil Gonzalez, a season-ticket holder for the last decade.

Fans directed their anger at longtime owner William Wirtz, derisively nicknaming him “Dollar Bill” for his refusal to televise most home games and his penny-pinching approach to contracts. They showed their disapproval the only way they knew how: by staying home.

It got so bad the minor-league Wolves actually outdrew the Blackhawks for a Sunday afternoon game in 2004.

When Wirtz died in September 2007, his son, Rocky, replaced him as chairman.

“I was a little skeptical,” Gonzalez admitted, “thinking, ‘like father, like son.’”

But W. Rockwell “Rocky” Wirtz’s Blackhawks are nothing like his father’s.

Less than a month after taking over, Rocky Wirtz put several home games on TV. All home games will be televised this season.

“If nothing else, we had to just eliminate the negative,” Wirtz said. “Everyone talked about it, the games on television—or lack thereof—and not about the team’s performance.”

Wirtz then lured Cubs president John McDonough to do the same job with the Blackhawks.

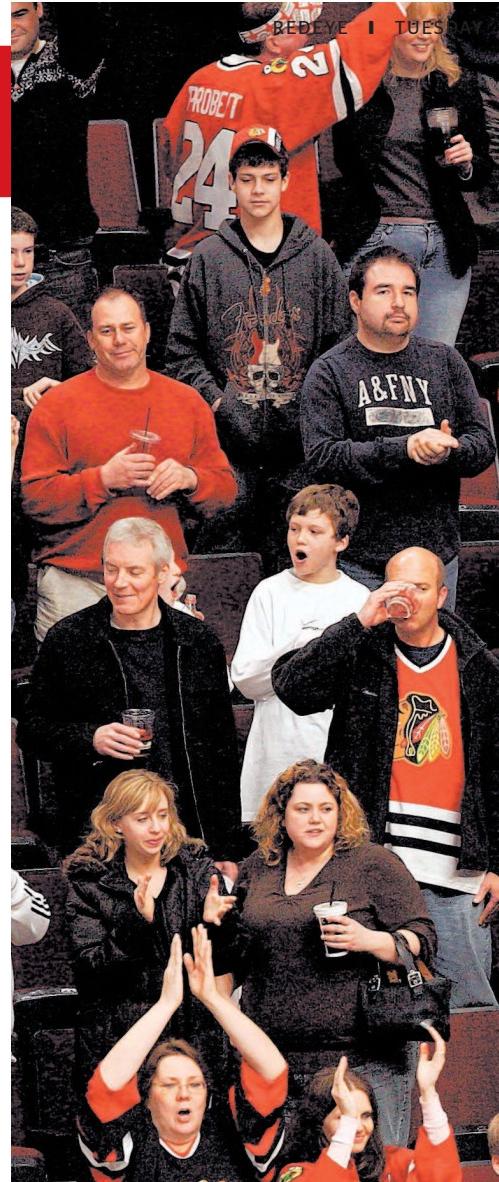
He rehired beloved broadcaster Pat Foley. The Blackhawks signed agreements with Comcast SportsNet and WGN, and partnered with the Cubs and White Sox to broaden the team’s exposure.

More than anything, Wirtz and McDonough infused the Blackhawks organization with a positive, forward-thinking attitude. Mediocrity—or worse—would no longer be tolerated.

When attendance began climbing last season, McDonough made it clear crowds of 10,000 or 12,000 were nothing special.

“I saw 10,000 empty seats,” he said.

Wirtz and McDonough are encouraged by the type of fans the Blackhawks are drawing



now. Parents with kids, like Jack and his son. The all-important twenty-something demographic too.

Fans, having felt unappreciated for so long, have wholeheartedly embraced the “new” Blackhawks.

General Manager Dale Tallon has built a strong, young core. Kane and Toews, the third overall pick in the 2006 draft, are the NHL’s best young scoring tandem.

Kane led all rookies with 72 points last year; Toews tied for third with 54. Brian Campbell, the top free agent defenseman available, signed an eight-year deal over the summer, and the team’s leading scorer is veteran Patrick Sharp.

The Blackhawks missed the playoffs by three points last season. When the team started slow this year, coach Denis Savard was fired and replaced by Joel Quenneville.

Wirtz and McDonough make it clear this is just the beginning of the Blackhawks’ transformation. They want the playoffs to become a regular part of the schedule, and they want to win the Stanley Cup.

In that respect, Wirtz is exactly like his father.

“The common denominator,” he said “is to win.”

**txtable**



## The Whiz Quiz

Think you know your stuff? Test your sports smarts against RedEye’s prognosticating pooch Whizzer. How many games did the Hawks sell out at the United Center last season? Text “quiz” and the number of your answer to 47383. I’ll txt ya back to tell you if you got the answer right or wrong.



A sold-out crowd celebrates a Blackhawks victory at the United Center in February.

STACEY WESCOTT/Tribune File

## Organ music is back too

### Chicago Tribune

The Barton pipe organ that pumped up Blackhawks fans for decades at the old Chicago Stadium is long gone. But the fans' fondness for organ music lives on.

"Chicago is an organ town," said Peter Hassen, senior director of marketing and advertising for the Hawks.

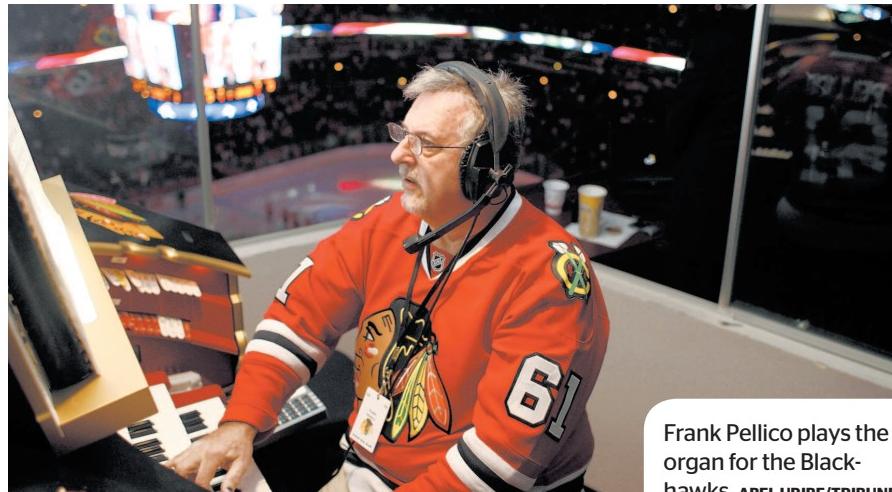
Even so, the team decided to tinker with Frank Pellico and his magic fingers a while back.

"It wasn't phased out," Hassen said. "We were kind of catering to a younger crowd, and we were looking at different things. You go through an evolution in game presentation, try different things. We didn't ever take it away. Just cut back on what Frank was doing during the games."

But the fans, the Hawks found out, really, really like their organ music, now provided by a \$150,000 Allen instrument.

"The experiment was short-lived, and we learned something," Hassen said.

Even with all the other musical entertainment at United Center, the Hawks



Frank Pellico plays the organ for the Blackhawks.

ABEL URIBE/Tribune

made room for the organ. And fans are happy.

"I think last year it was more of a topic of conversation," said Tony Demakis, a graphic designer from Crystal Lake and a season ticket-holder. "I haven't heard much this year."

"Last year I know there were more people upset about not hearing the organ. It seems like this year there are more things to be concerned with. Like they're actually winning, and people are more excited about the team [rather] than worrying about the organ."

## A Lovie-hate relationship

Lovie Smith's name is just like a fat guy named "Slim" or a short person called "Stretch." It's an oxymoron because I absolutely cannot stand Lovie Smith and his method of "coaching."

Rex Grossman's mediocre quarterback play aside, it's Lovie's poor defensive game plan that cost the Bears Sunday's game vs. the Titans.

Let's look at this realistically: Our backup quarterback went 20-37 with two TDs and 1 pick. What more do you ask of a BACKUP?

Smith on the other hand insists on running his "Cover Nothing" defense. Doesn't he realize that his defense is SOOO yesterday? Everybody in the league has adjusted to it, so isn't it time for him to make an adjustment himself? But he won't because he's a bad coach.

His game plan went a long way in losing a Super Bowl for the Chicago Bears. He failed to adjust, like always, and then what happened? Peyton Manning had a field day against us. His act has grown very, very old.

So when (cross my fingers) Jerry Angelo gets his good-for-nothing butt thrown out of Chicago, hopefully he doesn't forget to bring his precious Lovie and Lovie's crappy "Cover Nothing" defense with him.

**Tim Davis, Old Irving Park**

Orton at 75 percent is 100 percent better.

**Tim, Edison Park**

We asked RedEye's Twitter followers if they are paying attention to the Blackhawks now that they are coming back strong:

As a Red Wings fan, you bet I'm paying attention, those young Hawks scare me!

**natebeal**

Definitely paying more attention, actually trying to get on-the-glass tickets for Sunday.

**Stealx**

I'm paying attention all the way in Atlanta.

**keithrconrad**



**fan stands**

redeyesports@tribune.com

Readers step on their soapbox about the state of Chicago sports.

You can join them online at [twitter.com/redeyechicago](http://twitter.com/redeyechicago), via e-mail to [redeyesports@tribune.com](mailto:redeyesports@tribune.com) or by texting "whiz" and your comment to **47383**.

## Top cup

A week ago, we asked RedEye readers to elect a new Five on Five character. After counts and recounts (Whizkers threatened legal action), the winner is ... Stanley's Cup.



TOPIC	JIMMY GREENFIELD <a href="mailto:jgreenfield@tribune.com">jgreenfield@tribune.com</a>	TRACY SWARTZ <a href="mailto:tswartz@tribune.com">tswartz@tribune.com</a>	RAHULA STROHL <a href="mailto:rstrohl@tribune.com">rstrohl@tribune.com</a>	LEO EBERSOLE <a href="mailto:lebersole@tribune.com">lebersole@tribune.com</a>	STANLEY'S CUP <a href="mailto:redeyesports@tribune.com">redeyesports@tribune.com</a>
1 When do we know it's time to get excited about the Blackhawks?	Keep a close eye on my nipples.	When they hand out dollar bills to remind fans things could be Wirtz.	I could say something mean about hockey, but I'm actually excited. What a freakin' homer.	When. The. Playoffs. Start.	If you aren't excited already, you need a drink. A strong one.
2 Give Blackhawks leading scorers Patrick Sharp and Patrick Kane a nickname.	St. Patricks' Daze.	Patrick Swayze. Scoring big, right? They're just using you.	Paddy O'Scoresabunchofgoals.	"Kane and Able." Or "P. Sharp and Big Daddy Kane."	Cup Holders. Let's hope, at least.
3 What would you do for a ticket to the Winter Classic at Wrigley Field?	I'd run from the United Center to Wrigley Field naked. Seriously.	Nothing. I'll care about hockey when hell freezes over. Oh, wait.	Dye my hair black.	Line up a buyer for it and turn a profit. Sorry: As Andre 3000 said, I'm just being honest.	I'd allow those vendors to fill me with—ugh—a lite beer.
4 What's life gonna be like for the Bulls without Kirk Hinrich?	The exact same as life with Kirk Hinrich.	A lot of choking since no one can do Hinrich's maneuvers.	Like life with him, but with fewer pull-up jumpers on fast breaks.	They're going to miss his toughness—and ability to look like a forgotten Jonas brother.	Fewer wins, which means fewer celebratory drinks after the game.
5 The Atlanta Hawks are undefeated. How did this happen?	The Tampa Bay Rays went to the World Series. Shift happens.	The team used to be in St. Louis. That makes them No. 1 with a bullet.	Maybe the Stanford snob who left them for Greece was holding them back.	I'll take Dominique Wilkins and "time machine" for \$400, Alex.	Must be all those years practicing in the college ranks.

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**HOMETOWN HITS**

Sunday will mark the first time since Dec. 8, 1991, the Bears have played the Packers without Brett Favre at quarterback.

» Lance Briggs continued his Pro Bowl season with a solid game, including a devastating hit on fullback Ahmard Hall that Hall didn't remember after it knocked him out of the game in the third quarter. "I don't even know what happened," Hall told the Tennessean.



The Sox announced the start of a construction project at U.S. Cellular Field designed to improve access to fans entering at Gate 5. The project, started by the Illinois Sports Facilities Authority, will include the installation of escalators with a weather-protected enclosure. The project will cost about \$15 million as part of the ISFA's capital repair responsibilities for U.S. Cellular Field.



Thursday's Dallas game, which was originally scheduled for 8:30 p.m., will start at 7:30 p.m. instead and be televised on Comcast SportsNet.



Fire midfielder Diego Gutierrez, who is retiring after this season, missed Thursday's playoff game against New England because he was recovering from the flu. "It's always in the back of your mind that you won't end your career in shorts," Gutierrez said. "But I had faith in the guys that they would go out and do the job."

**HIT AND RUN****NHL****Blues to pay fans' mortgages**

The St. Louis Blues announced Monday that at every remaining Saturday home game beginning Nov. 29, the organization will call the seat number of a fan and pay that person's mortgage or rent for four months, up to \$4,000.

**MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL**

Cardinals QB Kurt Warner scrambles during Monday's 29-24 win over the 49ers. AP PHOTO

**COPS AND JOCKS**

*Athletes can't seem to stay out of trouble, and we can't seem to look away.*

**Castroneves due in court March 2**

IndyCar driver Helio Castroneves will stand trial March 2 in Miami federal court on tax evasion charges. Prosecutors say Castroneves, his sister and a Michigan lawyer tried to hide \$5.5 million in income from the IRS.



PHIL VELASQUEZ/Tribune File

# Nice catch

## Cubs' Soto named NL Rookie of the Year

Cubs catcher Geovany Soto ran away with the NL Rookie of the Year award Monday.

Soto, the steady catcher who helped the Cubs win the NL Central title, got 31 of 32 first-place votes from the Baseball Writers' Association of America. The other went to Cincinnati's Joey Votto.

Soto hit .285 with 23 homers, 35 doubles and 86 RBIs. He became the first catcher to win Rookie of the Year in either league since Mike Piazza of the L.A. Dodgers in 1993.

The 25-year-old Soto had a disappointing October after his team compiled the best regular-season record in the NL. He went 2-for-11 (.182) without an RBI as the Cubs were swept in the first round by the Dodgers. In July, Soto became the first National League catcher to start an All-Star game.

The NL Cy Young Award will be announced Tuesday.

Evan Longoria won the AL rookie award. White Sox second baseman Alexei Ramirez was the runner-up after receiving 18 second-place votes.

**CUBS HITS**

Tribune Co. has asked bidders for the Chicago Cubs to submit new offers before Nov. 27, Thanksgiving Day, according to two people involved in the negotiations. The bids have to include details on how the prospective buyers will finance the purchase of the team. Chicago-based Tribune, which owns the Chicago Tribune, RedEye and other media properties, also is looking to sell Wrigley Field and a 25 percent stake in Comcast SportsNet, a regional sports network. Before the financial crisis gripped Wall Street, the package was once valued at more than \$1 billion.


**watch  
dog**

**WHIZZER**  
redeyesports  
@tribune.com

The Blackhawks are making some noise. They are 7-3-3 and have a core of young players who know how to play. They are pulling out wins and seem to be learning from their mistakes.

Kind of like the Bulls from a couple of seasons ago. Remember how that turned out?

I think these Blackhawks are for real though. And their games are finally being televised. Here now, my TV picks.

**NBA**
**Bulls vs.  
Atlanta Hawks**  
7:30 p.m. CSN

The Hawks, believe it or not, haven't been beaten yet this season. It's not fair, I tell ya, not fair.

**COLLEGE  
FOOTBALL**
**Ball St. at  
Miami (Ohio)**  
6 p.m. ESPN2

I've been to Miami's campus. Nice. It's no Miami, Fla., however.

**NHL  
Pittsburgh  
at Detroit**  
6 p.m. Versus

The Red Wings won the Stanley Cup. No, not Stanley's cup. He's in Five on Five.



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new deals**

By Janine  
Schaults  
METROMIX.COM

## New hangs vie for your business with cheap eats and drinks

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## \$2 or less

### Amp Rock Lounge

1909 W. Lincoln Ave.

312-376-1860

If Axl Rose stopped in Chicago more often, this Sunset Strip-inspired enclave might just top his list of favorites. Stop in on Thursdays and Sundays (when there's no cover) to take advantage of this lounge's everyday deal of **\$2 cans of PBR, Old Style, Schlitz and Stroh's**.

### John's Place

2132 W. Roscoe St.

773-244-6430

This family-friendly eatery's new Roscoe Village outpost offers what plenty of bars won't: A weekend special—and a good one, at that. All **cocktails are half-price on Fridays**, which means martinis, margaritas and other sippers priced at \$8-\$10 will cost you just \$4-\$5.



**Sully's House Tap Room and Grill**  
CHUAN D. VO FOR METROMIX



**Sully's House Tap Room and Grill**  
CHUAN D. VO FOR METROMIX

## \$4 or less

### Sully's House Tap Room and Grill

1501 N. Dayton St. 312-929-2779

This cozy cross between an Irish pub and a sports bar boasts **half-price wings (\$2.50) on Mondays**. Baked 80 percent of the way and then thrown in the fryer to ensure a perfect tender-to-crispy ratio, these wings come in either hot or barbecue flavors with a side of celery and blue cheese dressing. Wash 'em down with \$2 drafts of Killian's and Point Pale Ale, plus \$2 PBR tallboys.

### Hi-Tops

2462 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-3232

Get over the hump day blues with a **\$2 half-pound hamburger** dressed with all the usual fixins (lettuce, tomato, onions) on **Wednesdays**. You'll have to fork over 50 cents extra for cheese and \$2 for fries, but you can wash it all down with \$3 domestic and premium draft beers. On Thursdays, you can forgo the food and just quench your thirst with \$1 bottles of Bud and Bud Light.

### The Zoo

3369 N. Clark St. 773-697-4511

Let out your dance beast when you hit the floor **Wednesday** nights at this leopard-printed lounge. Need liquid courage to bust your moves? The Zoo has the perfect remedy: **\$4 you-call-its**. No restrictions apply: Order anything you see at the bar, from draft beer to martinis. Seriously.

## \$6 or less

### Dick's Last Resort

315 N. Dearborn St. 312-836-7870

Settling in comfortably at its new digs in Marina City, this bastion of NOLA excess aims to lure the biz lunch crowd with a bevy of "Working Stiff" specials. Forget about brown-bagging it and try the **\$5.99 sandwich-of-the-day** (11 a.m.-4 p.m. **Monday through Thursday**). Served with fries and a soda or iced tea, the bacon cheeseburger, turkey wrap, buffalo ranch chicken or pulled pork sandwich will put a spring in your step on the way back to the office.

### F. O'Mahony's

3701 N. Broadway 773-549-0226

The Irish bar formerly known as Finley Mahony's isn't exactly new—but the name is, and so are the deals. Go with the flow and sip on **Irish drafts—Guinness, Harp, Magners Irish Cider or Smithwick's—for \$4 on Mondays**. One-person pizzas go for \$5 all evening (5 p.m.-1 a.m.) on Mondays, plus late nights (11 p.m.-1 a.m.) the rest of the week. Not your average cheese-and-sausage variety, options include goat cheese with spinach, or bruschetta pizza with fresh tomatoes and pesto.

JANINE SCHAUFTS IS A METROMIX SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.  
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## best bets

BY BATHSHEBA BIRMAN  
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TUESDAY  
FREEBIE

### Hot damn!

Delilah's,  
2771 N. Lincoln Ave.  
773-472-2771

Rock and reel at Delilah's **movie night** featuring rare '79 and '88 concert footage of seminal glam punk band The Damned, followed by a DJ spinning their tunes at 9 p.m. Drink specials include \$2 Point pints and \$2 Canadian Club shots. Stay tuned for spaghetti westerns on Saturdays and John Waters flicks on Sundays. 7 p.m.

tue  
11

### You vet-cha

Landmark Century Centre Cinema, 2828 N. Clark St. Salute Veteran's Day at **Reeling 2008: The 27th Chicago Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival**. The showcase of LGBT indie flicks continues Tuesday with a trio of films focusing on gays and lesbians in the military. Hen Lasker's Israeli documentary, "Seeds of Summer (Zirei Kayitz)," kicks things off at 7 p.m.; Damion Dietz's drama, "Dog Tags," starts at 7:15 p.m.; and Johnny Symons' documentary, "Ask Not," begins at 9 p.m. Festival continues through Nov. 16. \$6-\$10. 773-293-1447. Tickets: [reelingfilmfestival.org](http://reelingfilmfestival.org)

### Battle of wits

The Cornservatory, 4210 N. Lincoln Ave. 312-409-6435. Watch improv comics pack a punch at the final installment of "**The Original Improv Gladiators: Season Four**." In Round 1 of this improv smackdown, two to four teams perform 10-15 minute sets for a panel of judges; Round 2 throws the resident Improv Gladiators into the mix as teams battle for more points. Don't miss Saturday's grand finale (8 p.m.) where teams compete for their own late-night spot at The Cornservatory. BYOB. 8 p.m. \$10.

wed  
12

### Continental divide

Ethiopian Diamond Restaurant and Lounge, 6120 N. Broadway. Eat locally and think globally at **Table of Nations: Horn of Africa**. The quarterly dining-and-discussion series presented by the McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum focuses on autonomy issues around the world. On Wednesday, Sudanese refugees William Mou and Samuel Aneitwo discuss political instability in Africa's north-eastern region. Includes dinner. 6 p.m. \$25-\$35. 312-222-7871.

thu  
13

### Affair to remember

Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery, 1 W. Grand Ave.

Kick off the giving season at the **Fall Fling**, an annual benefit for the Insight Academic Program for low-income elementary school students. The feel-good party includes appetizers, drinks, live music, a raffle and silent auction. 6 p.m. \$35-\$40. 312-787-9824.

fri  
14

### Clay it smart

Hyde Park Art Center, 5020 S. Cornell Ave. 773-324-5520.

Get your hands dirty at monthly open studio party **Cocktails and Clay**. Sip while you sculpt during 45-minute, artist-led group sessions. Includes materials, a DJ, a dance performance by Core Project and a peek at gallery exhibitions. Cash bar. 8 p.m. \$15 suggested donation.

**HOW TO REACH US | FOR ENTERTAINMENT INFORMATION 24/7, GO TO [METROMIX.COM](http://METROMIX.COM).**

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For questions, comments and story ideas, contact Matt McGuire, editor, at [mmcguire@tribune.com](mailto:mmcguire@tribune.com)

To submit event information for Metromix or [metromix.com](http://metromix.com), go to [metromix.com/listings](http://metromix.com/listings).



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Pale Ale pints; 2771 N.  
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select cocktails; 1565  
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St. 312-226-3951.

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mixed drinks, half-  
price burgers; 2051 W.  
Division St. 773-394-  
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**JOHN BARLEYCORN**  
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Clark St. 773-549-  
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W. Division St. 773-862-  
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**MULLEN'S  
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bottles; 7301 N.  
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2113.

**O'DONOVAN'S**  
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wings; 2100 W. Irving  
Park Rd. 773-478-2100.

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Wells St. 312-266-6789.

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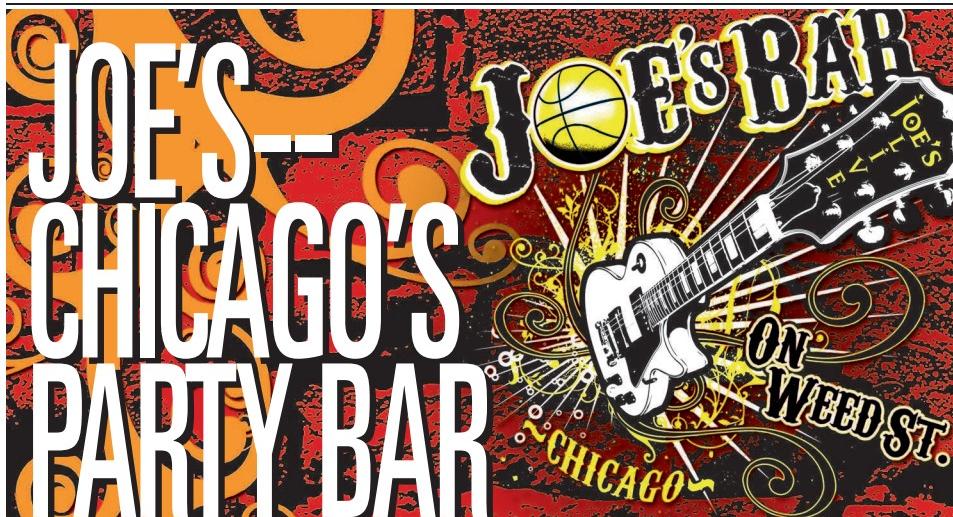
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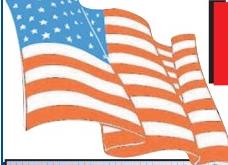
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Metromix's top shows

**Matt and Kim**

**MATT AND KIM**  
Freewheeling duo puts on a 100 percent guaranteed dance party. With Best Fwends, Hollywood Holt. 9:30 p.m. \$10. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. 773-278-6600. [housecallent.com](http://housecallent.com)

**VENOM LORDS**  
Local garage rock that sounds ready to take a bite out of you. With The Coronas, Genius School, Gabrel Kahane. 9 p.m. \$5. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave.

773-489-3160.  
**ELISA**  
Italian-born pop singer with a voice that deserves to be heard. With Plumb. 8 p.m. \$15. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

**OFF WITH THEIR HEADS**  
Minnesota punk that doesn't take itself too seriously. With Canadian Rifle, Chronic Seizure, The Brassknuckle Boys. 9 p.m. \$7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave. [mpshows.com](http://mpshows.com)

**ALFONSO PONTICELLI AND SWING GITAN**  
9 p.m. Free. Quenchers Saloon, 2401 N. Western Ave. 773-276-9730.

**ANDRE HOWARD, BIG ROB BLAINE**  
9:30 p.m. \$7. B.L.U.E.S., 2519 N. Halsted St. 773-528-1012.

**BILL'S BLUES JAM**  
8:30 p.m. Free. Bill's Blues Bar, 1029 Davis St., Evanston. 847-424-9800.

**CARIBICA**  
8 p.m. Free. Cafe Laguardia, 2111 W. Armitage Ave. 773-867-5996.

**CELTIC SEISIUNS**  
7 p.m. Free. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston. 847-864-1679.

**CHARLIE LOVE BLUES BAND WITH NELLIE TRAVIS**  
9 p.m. \$8. Blue Chicago at Ohio, 536 N. Clark St. 312-661-0100.

**DAN EFLAND TRIO**  
9 p.m. Free. Pops for Champagne, 601 N. State St. 312-266-7677.

**JOAN BAEZ**  
8 p.m. \$20-\$50. Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Ave. 312-294-3000.

**JOE BARR, JOANNA CONNOR**  
9:30 p.m. \$12. Kingston Mines, 2548 N. Halsted St. 773-477-4646.

**JOHN ZAMOJCIKIN**  
8 p.m. Free. Redhead Piano Bar, 16 W. Ontario St. 312-640-1000.

**JOHNNY DRUMMER**  
9:30 p.m. \$10. Buddy Guy's Legends, 754 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-0333.

**JORDAN BASKIN TRIO WITH DR. ODIES WILLIAMS**  
9 p.m. \$10. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

**JOSE VALDES LATIN JAZZ TRIO**  
6:30 p.m. Free. Green Dolphin Street, 2200 N. Ashland Ave. 773-395-0066.

**KEVIN NABORS QUARTET**  
5 p.m. \$5. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

**LORNA BOSTON BAND**  
10:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar, 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

**PETE GALANIS BAND WITH MARTY SAMMON**  
9:30 p.m. \$7. Rosa's Lounge, 3420 W. Armitage Ave. 773-342-0452.

**SEXIST**  
10 p.m. Free. Red Line Tap, 7006 N. Glenwood Ave. 773-274-5463.

**SLANK, THE UNDERWATER**  
8 p.m. \$8-\$10. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

**SUNBURNED HAND OF THE MAN, MASS SHIVERS, FRANKLIN'S MINT**  
9 p.m. \$8. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

**WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY JAZZ STUDIO ORCHESTRA, EVANSTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND**  
8 p.m. \$10. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. 847-492-8860.

**WHO'S BAD?, WEDDING BANNED**  
9 p.m. \$10-\$13. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

# Taylor made

**Swift's writing continues to improve on new CD**



**Taylor Swift**  
"Fearless"



When an unknown teenage artist and an upstart label both come from nowhere to sell well over 3 million albums, the question is: What do you do next? With Taylor Swift's sophomore album "Fearless," the answer is: You get even better.

There's still the teen angst of love wanted and love rejected from her self-titled debut, which produced such hits as "Tim McGraw," "Teardrops on My Guitar" and "Our Song," but the 18-year-old Swift isn't in high school anymore and there's more thoughtful maturity in her writing. And some anger.

For the latter, there's the Joe Jonas break-up song "Forever & Always," cut for the album at the last minute.

Swift wrote seven of the 13 tracks on the album and co-wrote the rest. Along with "Forever & Always," some are quite personal. On "Fifteen"—a song with musical overtones reminiscent of Janis Ian's "At Seventeen"—she writes of her best high school friend, "Abigail gave everything she had to a boy who changed his mind and we both cried." The album is rich in vocal variety and tempos. The accompaniment ranges from acoustic with a quiet B-3 in the background on "Hey Stephen" to full strings on "Breathe" (not the Faith Hill version) or the powerful album closer "Change."

But the glory of this CD is Swift's writing and how it complements her unique style of singing. **TOM GARDNER, AP**



**Swift**  
GETTY IMAGES FILE



**Seal**  
"Soul"



There's no doubt his music has always had soul, but now Seal properly covers the genre with his new album. The 12-track collection covers some of the genre's greatest songs. But Seal doesn't just go through the motions; instead he captures the emotion of the era. His silky smooth voice cuts through the very best that the Philadelphia, Memphis and Detroit sounds have to offer. Seal opens with a cover of Sam Cooke's "A Change is Gonna Come," the song borne of civil rights era struggles. The recent election of Barack Obama to the U.S. presidency makes the song seem even more poignant. **JOHN CARUCCI, AP**



**Seal**  
GETTY IMAGES FILE

## CD RACK ALSO IN STORES TUESDAY

- » David Archuleta, "David Archuleta"
- » The Flaming Lips, "Christmas on Mars"
- » Musiq Soulchild, "On My Radio"
- » Various Artists, "NOW 29"

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**pop**

# the auto-tune ringleader

T-Pain is leading the way when it comes to self-tuning his voice

## The Washington Post

T-Pain is tired of hearing the sound of his own, heavily processed voice.

Actually, the Tallahassee, Fla., hip-hop star is tired of hearing everybody else simulating the sound of his synthesized voice—the one that's run through a software program called Auto-Tune for a giddy effect that makes him (and them) sound like a singing cyborg or a warbling chipmunk, or maybe a much funkier Peter Frampton.

Superstar singers and rappers from Kanye West and Lil Wayne to Chris Brown and Ciara have been borrowing T-Pain's trademark, so incensing him that he's using his natural voice to talk about it on his album "Thr33 Ringz," which drops Tuesday.

The Auto-Tune King, unplugged? It's the equivalent of Jack Nicholson removing his shades to stare you down, or your mother calling you by your full name to emphasize just how much trouble you're in.

"Listen to the radio, it's obvious I still kill," T-Pain raps au naturel in a song called "Karaoke." The 23-year-old hitmaker proceeds to kill the copycats with a profanity-laced rant in which he seethes: "Y'all [bleeeeeep] can die slowly / Cause to me it sound like a buncha karaoke."

Oh, snap!

Or, as it might sound via Auto-Tune: Snaaa-aaaah-ahhhurr-urhhh-AAAP!

"Every time I hear somebody singing one of their songs, it sounds like them singing karaoke of one of my songs," T-Pain said. "Don't think I'm not going to hear it when you take that whole style from me. It's pretty much everybody; they're taking the sound I came out with, which was real different, very distinctive."

Until recently, the so-called "T-Pain effect" was actually known as "the Cher effect," after producers of Cher's 1998 dance-pop hit "Believe"

## WHO USES AUTO-TUNE?

Following T-Pain's breakthrough using—or misusing—Auto-Tune, many artists have adopted it.

- » Lil Wayne's "Lollipop"
- » Kanye West's "Love Lockdown"
- » Chris Brown's "Forever"
- » Janet Jackson's "Feedback"
- » G-Unit's 50 Cent showcase, "Rider Pt. 2"
- » Songs that feature T-Pain himself, such as Ciara's new single, "Go Girl"

pioneered the use of Auto-Tune to create rapturously robotic vocal flourishes that suggested a vocoder on steroids.

In fact, there's a long history of manipulated, metallic-sounding vocals (and sorta-vocals) in pop music, with artists from Kraftwerk, ELO and Bon Jovi to Madonna, Midnight Star and Daft Punk using everything from talk boxes to vocoders to spike their recordings with exotic, robotic voices.

» A talk box is a tubular device that allows a musician to change the content of an instrumental sound—via a plastic tube placed in the mouth—so the instrument appears to be "talking."

» A vocoder alters the sound and shape of the vocal signal by sending it through a keyboard synthesizer.

Operationally, Auto-Tune has more in common with a vocoder than a talk box.

T-Pain, whose given name is Faheem Najm, is careful to note the vocoder-and-talk-box-laced legacies of Roger Troutman (of Zapp) and Teddy Riley (Guy, Blackstreet) in "Karaoke." But there's no question that he's become synonymous with the suddenly ubiquitous Auto-Tune effect, which adds a distinct, delirious and decidedly sticky sound to his songs, many of them enormously successful.



Last year, two of T-Pain's singles and five others on which he was a featured vocalist landed in the Top 10 of Billboard's Hot 100, which some purists saw as yet another sign of the digital-music apocalypse. The alternate view: Making your singing voice sound like a Speak & Spell that's been submerged in a bathtub is no different from a guitarist using a wah-wah pedal to tweak the timbre of an instrumental line or a whammy bar to bend the pitch of a note.

"I've heard [the criticism] since I came out," said T-Pain, who just three years ago was a relatively unknown rapper who sometimes sang the hooks for his group, the Nappy Headz. "People were really hating on it. But I'm being accepted for doing it now. I'm actually being congratulated."

And copied.

"You're talking about bona fide hits by A-list artists, the biggest names in hip-hop," says Dion Summers, a senior programming director for Sirius XM's hip-hop and R&B channels. "The T-Pain technique definitely makes a song stand out. It sounds so cool, and it gives more rise to the record and makes it seem lighter. He really hit on a winning formula. It works; that's why these other artists are doing it."

In T-Pain's hands, Auto-Tune is used as a tool, not a crutch—a sort of flavor enhancer that falls somewhere between sweet cream butter and MSG. To achieve the effect, the Auto-Tune's "retune speed" setting is adjusted to zero; rather than moving a vocal toward the nearest correct note gradually, it's processed almost instantly, resulting in an unnatural stair step in pitch that makes human vocals sound unhuman.

"It really wasn't meant to be used that way," Hildebrand said, "but it's becoming really popular."



**T-Pain**  
"Thr33 Ringz"

Thanks to high-profile imitators like Kanye West and Lil Wayne, T-Pain's once-signature cyborgesque Auto-Tune-enhanced vocals have become something of the norm. On his third album, he makes the case for his misunderstood genius by reasserting that no one has a better idea of how to make a T-Pain song than T-Pain.

"Long Lap Dance" has all the T-Pain hallmarks—the robotic vocals, the mild raunch, the humor—but is far gentler than his previous work. So is the rest of this album, one of the softest soul records in recent memory.

But most jarring is "Keep Going," a shockingly straightforward ode to his family. The raw emotion surprises, but so does the delivery mode: gone are the robotic vocals. Instead, T-Pain sings unadorned, and sings well.

Maybe after months of having rappers imitate his every move, T-Pain just wanted something that couldn't be copied. JON CARAMANICA, NEW YORK TIMES



## How Auto-Tune works

### The Washington Post

The great irony of the Auto-Tune explosion is that the software that's now being used to distort vocals in an intentionally obvious, attention-getting, over-the-top way was originally created to do something stealthy in the recording studio: correct pitch problems.

While pop music isn't anything like rocket science, it took a geophysicist to figure out how to clean up wrong notes. Twenty years ago Harold "Andy" Hildebrand started a company, Jupiter Systems (since renamed Antares), that applied mathematical models

and digital-signal processing technology to musical applications.

Introduced by Antares in 1997, the Auto-Tune application was revolutionary. It reduced the need for—and expense of—doing countless vocal retakes in pursuit of a perfect end-to-end vocal; it also allowed singers (J. Lo) with pitch problems (Britney) to sound somewhat palatable (Cassie).

"The automatic algorithm compares the pitch of the singer to a scale, then gradually moves the singer's pitch toward the scale note," Hildebrand said.

Auto-Tune and pitch-correction programs

### AUTO-TUNE FOR YOU

Antares is releasing a discounted, stripped-down version of Auto-Tune this month to coincide with the release of T-Pain's latest album. Auto-Tune plugins typically sell for more than \$300, but Antares is offering the Auto-Tune EFX for \$99 through Guitar Center.



during concerts. Is it live? Yes. Are you hearing the music naturally, without "invisible" fixes? Maybe not.

It's so prevalent that Nashville producers rave when they encounter mainstream country singers, like Ashton Shepherd, who can record without any pitch correction. Harvey Mason Jr., a successful pop and R&B songwriter-producer, conservatively estimates that 60 percent of recording artists are using Auto-Tune as it was originally intended.

Is it cheating?

"I don't engage in those conversations," Hildebrand said. "I just make software."

like it are now used in just about every pop genre. There's also a version that can be used



Vince Vaughn  
Reese Witherspoon

His father,  
her mother,  
his mother  
and her father  
all in one day.

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STORY BY MATT R. ALLEN & CALEB WILSON  
SCREENPLAY BY MATT R. ALLEN & CALEB WILSON AND JON LUCAS & SCOTT MOORE  
DIRECTED BY SETH GORDON

This film is rated PG-13. NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE. All federal, state and local regulations apply. A limited number of tickets are available, while supplies last. Not responsible for lost, delayed or misdirected entries. No purchase necessary. One pass per person. Employees of all promotional partners, their agencies and those who have received a pass within the last 90 days are not eligible. A recipient of tickets assumes any and all risks related to use of ticket and accepts any restrictions required by ticket provider. Warner Bros., Red Eye, The Central and their affiliates accept no responsibility or liability in connection with any loss or accident incurred in connection with use of a prize. Tickets cannot be exchanged, transferred or redeemed for cash, in whole or in part. Limit one email per person, per household. Admission to the event is at the venue's discretion. Must be 21 or older and show valid ID.

OPENES NATIONWIDE ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH!

## MOTION PICTURE DIRECTORY

◆ Handicapped Access ◆ Digital Sound  
✓ Dolby Stereo ★ No Passes ♫ Hearing - Impaired

G - General audience PG - Parental guidance suggested  
PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13  
R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian  
NC-17 - No one 17 and under admitted

### 600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)

600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago  
(312) 255-9340

Show times change daily

#### AMC Select - The best specialty films

- Madagascar 2 (PG) 11:30,12:30,2:00,3:00,4:30,5:30,7:00,8:00,9:30,10:30
- Soul Men (R) 11:40,12:15,5:00,7:50,10:35
- Role Models (R) 11:50,2:45,5:40,8:15,10:45
- AMC Select Changeling (R) 12:45,4:00,7:15,10:20
- Zack and Miri (R) 1:00,3:30,6:00,8:30,11:00
- Haunting-Molly (PG-13) 12:15,2:30,5:15,7:40,10:10
- Saw V (R) 4:15,9:45
- HS Musical 3 (G) 11:15,1:15,4:40,7:30,10:10
- AMC Select Burn After Rd. (R) 1:30,6:50

### LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)

2828 North Clark St., Chicago  
(773) 509-4949

- Synecdoche (R) 1:50,4:40,7:30,10:20
- Happy-Go-Lucky (R) 2:00,4:45,7:30,10:15
- Noah's Arc (R) 2:20,4:30,7:00,10:00
- Rachel Getting (R) 2:10,4:55,7:40,10:25
- The Duchess (PG-13) 2:15,7:15
- Religious (R) 4:50,9:45

### CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)

2600 N. Western Ave.  
(800) 326-3264 #1642

- Madagascar 2 (PG) \* 10:00,10:30,11:00,11:30,12:20,12:50,1:00,1:30,2:30,3:30,4:30,5:30,6:30,7:20,7:50,8:20,8:50,9:40,10:10,10:40
- Soul Men (R) \* 10:40,11:40,1:30,2:30,4:20,5:20,7:00,8:00,9:50,10:50
- Haunting-Molly (PG-13) \* 10:45,1:10,4:40,6:50,8:50
- Zack and Miri (R) \* 10:50,1:12,4:40,3:30,7:10,10:00
- HS Musical 3 (G) 11:20,2:00,4:50,7:40,10:30
- Saw V (R) 10:10,12:40,3:30,6:20,9:00
- High Scho (G) 10:20,1:00,3:50,6:40,9:30
- Max Payne (PG-13) 11:10,2:10,5:10,8:10,10:45
- Quarantine (R) 10:15,12:30,2:30,6:10,9:10
- Body of Lies (R) 4:40,7:30,10:20
- BH Chihuahua (PG) 9:50,10:12,20

### DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)

4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago  
(773) 784-0893

- Madagascar 2 (PG) \* 11:30,1:30,3:30,5:30,7:30,9:30
- Role Models (R) \* 1:00,3:10,5:20,7:30,9:50
- W. (PG-13) 11:45,2:15,4:45,7:15,9:45
- Burn After Rd. (R) 1:30,5:40,10:00
- Religious (R) 3:30,7:40

### FORD CITY 14 (AMC)

S. Cicero at 76th, Chicago  
(773) 582-1839

Show times change daily

#### AMC Select - The best specialty films

- Madagascar 2 (PG) 12:10,12:45,1:30,2:20,3:10,4:40,5:40,6:20,7:10,8:00,8:45,9:30,10:15
- Soul Men (R) 12:10,1:20,2:30,4:10,5:00,6:30,7:30,9:00,10:10
- AMC Select Changeling (R) 12:45,4:00,7:15,10:20
- Zack and Miri (R) 1:00,3:30,6:00,8:30,11:00
- Haunting-Molly (PG-13) 12:15,2:30,5:15,7:40,10:10
- Saw V (R) 4:15,9:45
- HS Musical 3 (G) 11:15,1:15,4:40,7:30,10:10
- Max Payne (PG-13) 2:05,6:45
- AMC Select Secret of Bees (PG-13) 1:40,4:20,7:05,9:40
- Quarantine (R) 9:45,9:50
- BH Chihuahua (PG) 12:15,2:15,4:45,7:20
- Eagle Eye (PG-13) 3:40,9:15

### GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

164 State Street

312-846-2800

- Dear Zachary (NR) 6:00,8:00
- In Which-Serve (NR) 8:00
- Dark Crystal (PG) 6:00

### LINCOLN VILLAGE THEATER

6341 N. McCormick at Devon Chicago  
312-642-2403

Call theatre for show information

### LOGAN THEATRE

2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago  
(773) 252-0628

- BH Chihuahua (PG) 2:15,4:20,6:25,8:30
- Eagle Eye (PG-13) 2:00,4:05,6:10,8:20
- Burn After Rd. (R) 2:10,4:10,6:10,8:10
- Journey-Center (PG) 2:00,5:20,8:40
- Igor (PG) 3:40,7:00

### MUSIC BOX

3733 N. Southport, Chicago

(773) 871-6604

- Lola Montes (NR) 5:10,7:30,9:45
- Ballast (NR) 5:20,7:20,8:10
- Tell No One (NR) 9:20 P.M.

### PIPER'S ALLEY (AMC)

1608 N. Wells, Chicago  
(312) 642-7500

Show times change daily

#### AMC Select - The best specialty films

- AMC Select House (R) 2:50,4:55,7:00
- AMC Select RocknRolla (R) 7:45,7:45,9:45
- I've Loved You (PG-13) 3:30,6:30
- AMC Select W. (PG-13) 1:35,4:25,7:15
- AMC Select Vicky Cristina (PG-13) 1:00,3:15,5:30

### RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)

322 E. Illinois Street

847-765-7262

Show times change daily

#### Striped Pajamas (PG-13) 11:20,1:00,2:00,3:45,4:45,5:45,6:30,8:30,10:20

- Madagascar 2 (PG) 11:30,12:45,2:15,3:30,5:00,6:15,7:45,9:00
- Madagascar 2 (PG) 13:00,4:15,7:00,9:45
- Soul Men (R) 11:15,1:15,2:10,4:05,5:05,6:00,8:00,9:45,10:45
- Role Models (R) 11:30,2:15,3:15,5:00,6:00,7:50,8:50,10:40
- AMC Select RocknRolla (R) 11:00,2:10,4:04,7:35,10:40
- AMC Select Changeling (R) 12:45,2:05,4:05,7:15,8:15,10:30
- Zack and Miri (R) 11:15,1:15,4:45,5:15,6:00,8:30,10:25
- Pride and Glory (R) 1:00,7:10
- Saw V (R) 1:00,2:35,6:05,8:35
- HS Musical 3 (G) 1:00,4:00,7:05,10:00
- Max Payne (PG-13) 11:30,5:30
- AMC Select Secret of Bees (PG-13) 12:55,3:40,6:15,8:50
- AMC Select W. (PG-13) 1:05,4:00,7:15,10:35
- Body of Lies (R) 4:10,10:10
- Quarantine (R) 10:30 P.M.
- BH Chihuahua (PG) 1:00 P.M.
- AMC Select Religious (R) 3:15 P.M.
- Nick and Norah (PG-13) 10:50,1:50,4:40,7:30,10:30
- Burn After Rd. (R) 1:00,7:15

### CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)

7000 Carpenter Rd., Skokie

(800) 326-3204 #2309

- Madagascar 2 (PG) \* 12:20,12:50,1:40,2:10,2:40,3:10,4:00,4:30,5:00,5:30,6:20,7:20,7:50,8:40,9:00,10:40,11:10
- Role Models (R) \* 1:20,4:10,7:00,9:45
- Soul Men (R) \* 10:20,10:50,12:45,14:00,3:30,4:20,6:20,7:20,9:00,9:45
- House (R) \* 11:20,2:20,4:50,7:10,9:30
- Haunting-Molly (PG-13) 10:40,1:20,3:40,6:45,9:30
- Zack and Miri (R) \* 11:30,2:30,5:15,7:45,9:00
- Pride and Glory (R) 10:10,4:10,10:00
- HS Musical 3 (G) 10:30,1:10,3:50,6:40,9:15
- Secret of Bees (PG-13) 10:20,1:10,2:40,20,7:10,9:50
- Body of Lies (R) 10:50,1:50,4:40,7:30,10:00
- Saw V (R) 11:50,2:20,5:15,7:45,10:30
- Max Payne (PG-13) 1:00,6:00
- Quarantine (R) 10:10,3:30,9:00
- BH Chihuahua (PG) 11:40,2:20,5:10,7:40,9:40

### CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES) (continued)

4779 W. Cermak  
(800) 326-3264 #1644

- Madagascar 2 (PG) \* 10:00,10:30,11:20,12:20,12:50,9:40,10:10

■ Role Models (R) \* 11:10,1:10,5:45,7:30,10:20

■ House (R) \* 11:20,2:20,4:00,7:00,9:45

■ Haunting-Molly (PG-13) \* 10:40,1:20,4:20,6:45,9:30

■ Zack and Miri (R) \* 11:45,2:15,4:50,7:50,15:50,19:50

■ Pride and Glory (R) 10:15

■ HS Musical 3 (G) 10:20,1:10,3:50,6:30,9:15

■ Secret of Bees (PG-13) 12:10,2:35,5:00,7:25,9:50

■ W. (PG-13) 4:10,6:50,9:35

■ Zack and Miri (R) 12:25,2:40,4:55,7:20,9:40

### CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)

1477 W. Cermak  
(800) 326-3264 #1644

- Madagascar 2 (PG) \* 10:00,11:00,12:20,1:20,2:40,4:00,5:00,6:30,7:20,8:00,9:40

■ Role Models (R) \* 11:45,2:15,5:50,7:30,10:20

■ Changeling (R) \* 11:20,12:30,2:50,3:40,6:10,7:00,9:20,10:15

■ Zack and Miri (R) \* 11:30,2:30,5:10,7:45,9:00

■ Pride and Glory (R) 10:10,4:10,10:00

■ HS Musical 3 (G) 11:30,2:00,4:30,7:00,9:30

■ Madagascars 2 (PG) 11:00,1:05,3:10,5:15,7:20,9:25

■ Rachel Getting (R) 11:45,2:10,4:40,7:10,9:40

■ Secret of Bees (PG-13) 12:10,2:35,5:00,7:25,9:50

■ W. (PG-13) 4:10,6:50,9:35

■ Zack and Miri (R) 12:25,2:40,4:55,7:20,9:40

### WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES)

1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago  
(800) 326-3264 #1644

- Madagascar 2 (PG) \* 10:00,11:00,12:20,1:20,2:40,4:00,5:00,6:30,7:20,8:00,9:40

■ Role Models (R) \* 11:45,2:15,5:50,7:30,10:20

■ Changeling (R) \* 11:20,12:30,2:50,3:40,6:10,7:00,9:20,10:15

■ Zack and Miri (R) \* 11:30,2:30,5:10,7:45,9:00

■ Pride and Glory (R) 10:10,4:10,10:00

■ HS Musical 3 (G) 10:30,1:10,3:50,6:40,9:15

■ Secret of Bees (PG-13) 12:10,2:35,5:00,7:25,9:50

■ W. (PG-13) 4:10,6:50,9:35

■ Zack and Miri (R) 12:25,2:40,4:55,7:20,9:40

### SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES)

E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave.  
(800) 326-3264 #1644

- Madagascar 2 (PG) 10:00,10:30,11:20,12:20,12:50,2:10,2:40,3:10,4:00,3:10,4:30,5:00,5:30,6:20,7:20,7:50,9:30,10:40

■ Role Models (R) 11:00,2:00,4:00,7:10,9:50

■ Soul Men (R) 10:20,10:50,12:45,14:00,3:30,4:20,6:20,7:20,9:00,9:45

■ Syncopate (R) 11:45,2:15,4:05,7:00,9:50

■ Body of Lies (R) 12:35,7:05

■ Changeling (R) \* 12:20,3:30,5:00,7:40,10:25

■ We Loved You (PG-13) \* 1:10,4:30,7:20,10:10

■ Rachel Getting (R) 11:45,2:25,5:15,7:55,10:35

■ RocknRolla (R) \* 12:30,4:45,7:30,10:20

■ Saw V (R) 12:45,3:05,5:25,8:05,10:30

■ Haunting-Molly (PG-13) \* 3:50,10:05

■ Secret of Bees (PG-13) 11:50,12:25,5:05,7:05,10:10

■ Zack and Miri (R) \* 12:25,2:40,5:10,7:45,10:15



**geek  
to me**

**ELLIOTT  
SERRANO**  
redeyegerk  
@gmail.com

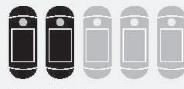
### "CHASE" debuts

The "Amazing Race" meets LARP-ing (Live Action Role Playing) in the Sci-Fi Channel's new "virtual reality" show "CHASE," which debuts at 9 p.m. Tuesday.

Contestants are set loose on a "real-life video game board" and try to evade sinister looking hunters in order to win \$25,000.

If "CHASE" expects to make it as a live-action video game show, they'll need to make the game play more exciting.

### GEEK FACTOR RATING



2 photon  
torpedoes

# 'Savage' love brings series back to Chicago

Erik Larsen's "Savage Dragon" has traveled through space, been to hell and was even elected U.S. president—although the Supreme Court disallowed it—since debuting in his own comic-book series in 1992.

Now Larsen is bringing the green-skinned crimefighter, who happens to have a fin on top of his head, back to his Chicago roots. The former Windy City police officer is returning to the force.

"Writing and drawing Savage Dragon as a cop after nearly 12 years feels good—it feels right," Larsen told me. "It's a homecoming of sorts and it's a joy to be back."

The Dragon was first discovered in a burning Chicago field without any memory as to who he was or where he came from. At the time, the CPD was battling a number of super-powered criminals called superfreaks. Dragon was recruited to fight these beings. His adventures eventually took him away from Chicago—and out of his uniform.

"What I hadn't counted on was just how much readers identified him as a police officer," Larsen said. "To them, that was as much a part of his look as the fin on his head."



"Savage Dragon #145," published by Image Comics, goes on sale in February. In it, the Dragon's archenemies, the Vicious Circle, return with a vengeance. He rejoins the CPD to take them on.

"It made sense on a story level and it was something readers really wanted," Larsen said. "It really just felt right."

Larsen, who was born in Minneapolis and now lives in Oakland, Calif., set the Dragon's adventures in Chicago because he felt New York City already had its share of superheroes. But he had another important reason: "the pizza," he said. "For crying out

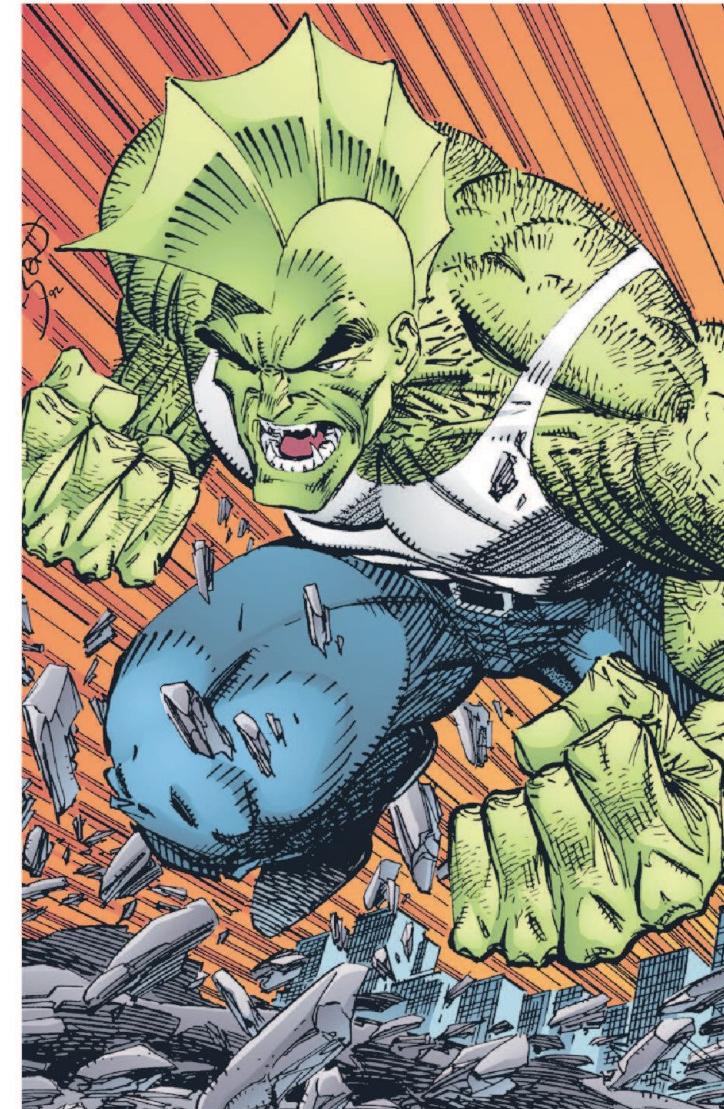
loud, why would anybody go elsewhere? It's just a great city with a rich history."

Larsen made The Dragon a White Sox fan. The scaly-skinned hero recently captured national attention when he "endorsed" Chicago's own Barack Obama during the presidential campaign.

"I think Savage Dragon is what put Obama over the top," Larsen said.

For more information on the "Savage Dragon" series, go to [imagecomics.com](http://imagecomics.com).

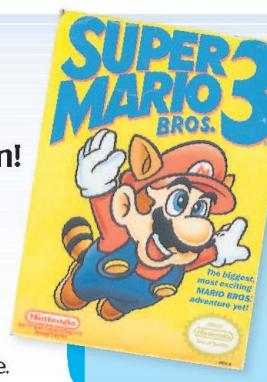
ELLIOTT SERRANO IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



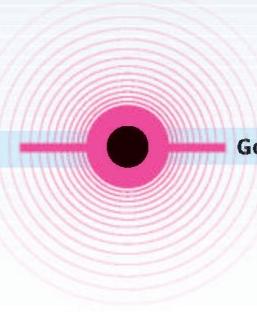
## Best. Video game. Ever.

It's the final countdown!  
Go online and vote  
for your favorite

RedEye's "Best Video Game Ever" tournament is down to the final two. The Old School bracket is represented by Mario 3, while GoldenEye came out of the New School region. So will it be raccoon suits or tuxedos? Throwing hammers or throwing knives? Mario the plumber or James the agent? You get to decide. Cast your vote at [redeyechicago.com/bestvideogame](http://redeyechicago.com/bestvideogame).



Mario 3



GoldenEye



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## ADVERTISEMENT

# Lose 21 Pounds in 4 Weeks

With multiple locations in Morton Grove, Chicago, Schaumburg, Oakbrook Terrace, and Worth the physicians at The Center for Medical Weight Loss offer rapid, long-lasting weight loss for even the most difficult cases. With products and techniques available only to medical doctors, these centers have an advantage over every commercial program when it comes to helping patients lose weight and keep it off.

The physicians at every center have specialized training in weight loss medicine, and use a variety of techniques to achieve rapid weight loss. For patients who have tried everything, The Center for Medical Weight Loss offers new hope to those who have tried over and over to drop those unwanted pounds.

Each patient is evaluated by a physician and is given a customized program specially designed to meet the person's specific needs. The Centers' success rate speaks for itself; the average weight loss is **21 pounds in 4 weeks\*** on their medically prescribed diet.

Their programs are geared toward teaching the skills and behavioral changes required



not only to lose weight, but to maintain the weight loss permanently. In addition, the Centers pride themselves on the close relationships they build with their patients as they lose weight.

Dr. Michael Kaplan, president of

The Center for Medical Weight Loss says, "The foundation for the program is high quality care, with an emphasis on behavioral modification through individualized counseling. We measure our patients' progress very carefully and can tell if a patient is losing water, fat or muscle as they begin losing weight. We adjust our techniques to make the weight loss not only rapid, but healthy and safe for our patients. We are committed to making sure patients not only lose weight, but keep it off permanently."

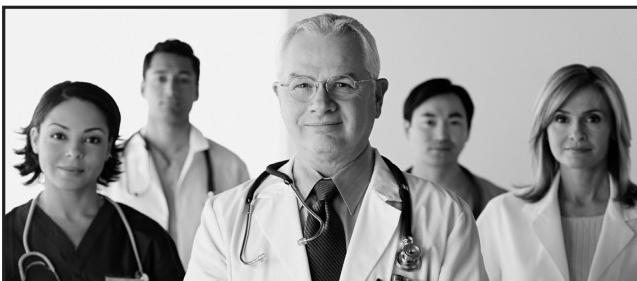
There are **special introductory offers** for new patients at all locations.

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\*Average weight loss based on a random sample of 58 men and 61 women on the medically prescribed diet.

The Doctors at the Center for Medical Weight Loss have specialized training and use a variety of techniques to achieve rapid weight loss.

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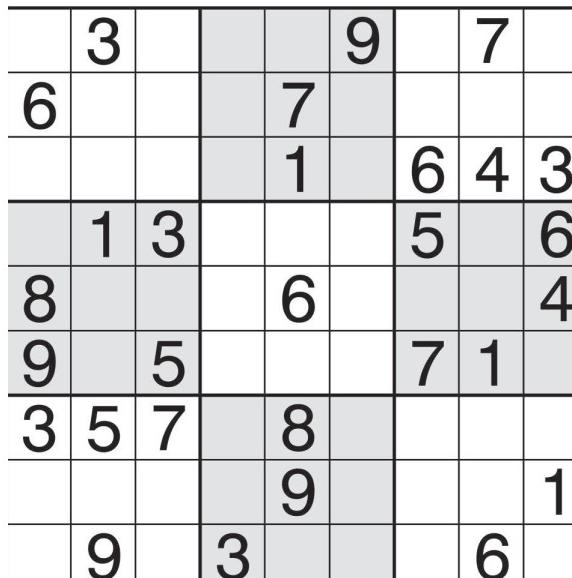
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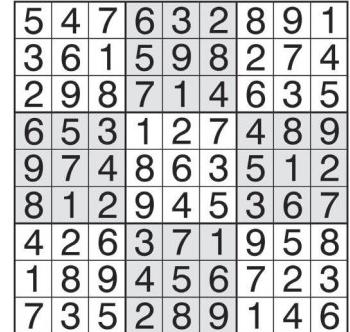
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- 1 Actor Dillon  
5 Handles the helm  
11 Cut grass  
14 Frank  
15 Victory shout  
16 " \_ Gotta Be Me"  
17 Tear  
18 Steam locomotives of the Old West  
20 Actor Carney  
21 Compact  
22 "The Man Who \_ There"  
23 Mike or Helmut  
25 Take care of  
27 Feminist Orbach  
28 Up and about  
30 Roswell, NM sighting  
33 Beer mug  
35 Mascara's location  
37 Butter squares  
40 Acceptable excuse  
42 House gofer  
43 \_ of London  
45 H.S. dances  
47 "Roundabout" band  
48 View again  
50 Mechanical man  
54 Panache  
56 Give life to  
58 Flavorful  
60 Flower holders  
62 \_ Alamos, NM  
63 Advocates  
65 Ink spot  
66 Pismire  
67 Trumpet's cousin  
68 Wear the crown  
69 Mayday!  
70 Works, as dough  
71 Mimicked

**DOWN**

- 7 Aphrodite's son  
8 Mr. Hemingway  
9 Go team!  
10 Like April  
11 University of  
Montana city  
12 Hot chamber  
13 Actress Mae  
19 Rodent pest  
21 Menu plan  
24 Girlie  
5 Refrain in a children's  
song  
29 Shoot from hiding  
31 High-fiber fruit  
32 Poetic piece  
34 Stand for art  
36 English derby town  
37 Carry on, as a trade  
38 Tavern order  
39 Drunkards  
41 Pushed forward  
against  
44 Ship garage  
46 Noninvasive  
med. exams  
49 Unsparing  
51 Form into a wad  
52 "The Stunt Man" star  
53 Sampled  
55 Insider's advice  
57 Bird homes  
58 Restful resort spots  
59 Tuscany river  
61 "The King and I" role  
64 \_ sequitur  
65 Lingerie buy

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# whoville

BY  
JIM  
WALSH



AP FILE

## 1 Will Smith

**Memorable roles:** The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air, every summer blockbuster thereafter. **America loves:** His smile and, to a lesser extent, his ability to get jiggy with it.



AP FILE

## 2 Tom Hanks

**Memorable roles:** Dude in "Castaway," Woody in "Toy Story," and many, many others. **America loves:** His laugh—and his ability to give a classy acceptance speech.



BLOOMBERG NEWS FILE

## 3 Reese Witherspoon

**Memorable roles:** June Carter in "Walk the Line," smart-but-ditsy lawyer Elle Woods. **America loves:** Her name. Just sounds so smooth, doesn't it? With ... er ... spoon.



GETTY IMAGES FILE

## 4 George Clooney

**Memorable roles:** Danny Ocean, Dr. Ross on "E.R." **America loves:** Anything he says, does or wears.



AP

## 10 Patrick Dempsey

**Memorable role:** Dr. Shepherd on "Grey's Anatomy." **America loves:** His perfect hair—seriously, what kind of product is he using, anyway?

# Parade of stars

These celebs are tops in America's book

Ah, Parade magazine: When you really want to wrap your head around a topic, it never disappoints.

Recently, the mag (newspaper supplement?) decided to take "a break from this serious and intense season" to answer a question no doubt weighing heavy on the nation's heart amid troubling economic times: Who is America's favorite celebrity?

Parade teamed up with "Entertainment Tonight" for this national vote. RedEye just had to weigh in, so we examined the field to find out what makes these 10 stars so darn likable.



AP FILE

## 5 Meryl Streep

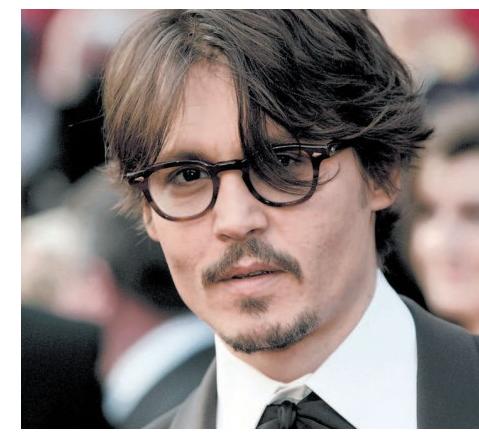
**Memorable roles:** The meanest lady ever in "The Devil Wears Prada," Francesca Johnson in "The Bridges of Madison County." **America loves:** Her posture. Have you ever seen someone stand up so straight?



GETTY IMAGES FILE

## 9 Jennifer Aniston

**Memorable roles:** Rachel in "Friends," the high-strung Brooke in "The Break-Up." **America loves:** Her tenacity. After getting the boot from Brad Pitt, she's looking for Mr. Right.



MCT FILE

## 8 Johnny Depp

**Memorable roles:** Anything directed by Tim Burton. **America loves:** His hat-wearing ability.



AP

## 7 Julia Roberts

**Memorable roles:** Erin Brockovich, the call girl in "Pretty Woman." **America loves:** Her cheekbones?



GETTY IMAGES FILE

## 6 Brad Pitt

**Memorable roles:** Tyler Durden in "Fight Club," Rusty Ryan in the "Ocean's" franchise. **America loves:** The fact that he's a dad to the Bradgelina brood.

Johnson  
and Sapp  
ABC

## 'Dancing' with pain

First Misty May-Treanor went down with an Achilles tendon. Then two-time "Dancing with the Stars" champ Julianne Hough had to have an appendectomy. Add Kym Johnson to the list of ailing dancers. The dancer suffered a shoulder injury over the weekend, [accesshollywood.com](http://accesshollywood.com) reported. She was cleared to dance on Monday night's show. After a less-than-stellar foxtrot last week, Johnson told People that she and her partner, former NFL star Warren Sapp, would be pushing themselves in this week's competition.

### Priceless wedding

Beyoncé refuses to put a price on photos of her wedding to Jay-Z, saying the offer of "crazy money" is "ridiculous," according to The Associated Press. B and Jay were married in April in an intimate ceremony in New York City. "We worked really hard at keeping it private," she said. "I've always been this way, and he's always been this way, so that's why we complement each other."

### All access Hannah?

The Obama girls may be visiting the "Hannah Montana" set soon, [accesshollywood.com](http://accesshollywood.com) reported. "The invitation is there," Miley Cyrus' dad told "Access Hollywood" of a possible visit by Malia and Sasha Obama. "The 'Hannah Montana' film comes out in April. Maybe something might happen around then." He wouldn't spill any details, saying only, "I have got to keep a secret."

Pattinson  
AP

## 'Twilight' mania

A girl was reportedly hurt after a crowd of mostly tween "Twilight" fans got rowdy at a San Francisco mall, the San Francisco Chronicle reported. About 3,000 arrived Monday for an autograph session with Robert Pattinson, who plays Edward Cullen. The appearance was canceled. Think that's extreme? Pattinson told People that a 7-year-old girl recently asked him, "Can you bite me?"

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## txtable

### CELEBRITY TWIN

Do you look like a celebrity? Show us! Send your picture along with the name of the celeb who shares your style to [dlhernandez@tribune.com](mailto:dlhernandez@tribune.com). For Tuesday, we have Van Le Crockett. Think she's a ringer for Tia Carrere? Text "twin" and the number of your opinion to **47383**. You'll get the poll results instantly.

1. Dead on
2. Way off

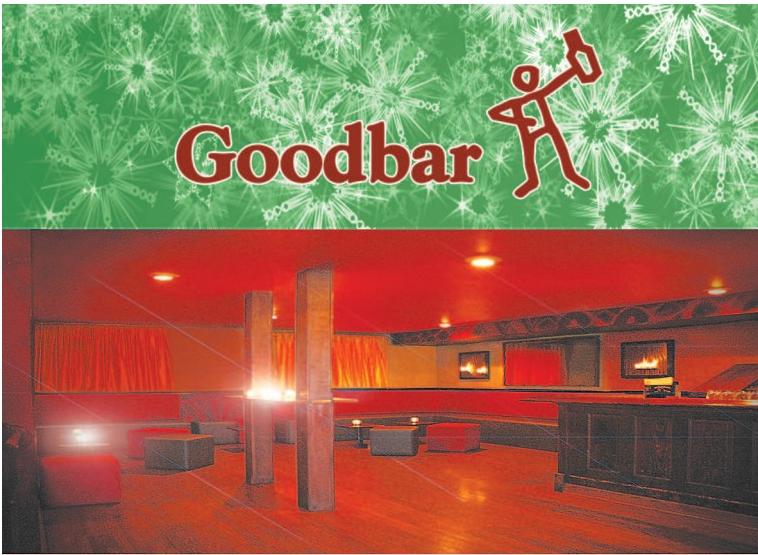


Le Crockett



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## THE VELVET ROPE



Ronson (left)  
and Lohan

AP FILE

# The 'L' word

Lindsay Lohan may be dating a woman, but she doesn't consider herself a lesbian.

"I don't want to classify myself," Lohan told Harper's Bazaar in an interview for its December edition. When asked whether she'd consider herself bisexual, she responds, "Maybe," according to excerpts from Reuters.

Lohan also spoke at length about her relation-

ship with celebrity DJ Samantha Ronson.

"I think it's pretty obvious who I'm seeing," Lohan told Harper's. "I think it's no shock to anyone that it's been going on for quite some time. ... She's a wonderful person and I love her very much."

What does her family think of Ronson? "It's never really come up as an issue," according to Lohan.

**“She’s a wonderful person and I love her very much.”**

**LINDSAY LOHAN**  
on her relationship with  
DJ Samantha Ronson



## HOT DATE

**Jan. 7**

That's when Queen Latifah (left) is slated to host the 35th annual People's Choice Awards live from L.A.

## Which doesn't belong?

Few shows are nominated for favorite TV drama in the People's Choice Awards. Guess which of these three didn't make the cut. Text "drama" and the number of your answer to **47383**. You'll get a message back telling you if you're right.

1. "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation"

2. "Law & Order: SVU"

3. "Grey's Anatomy"

**txtable**



Colicchio (left)  
and Lakshmi

## 'Top' dish

"Top Chef" is back Wednesday, and judges Padma Lakshmi and Tom Colicchio dished about the show, which films in New York this season. Here are some of the juiciest tidbits, according to New York magazine:

- » Lakshmi on guilty pleasures: "I like Tom's scrambled eggs—he made them for me in the dressing room once." Um, awkward!
- » Lakshmi on gaining weight: "I gain about 10 to 15 pounds over the course of six weeks ... I always go up one dress size, without fail."
- » Colicchio on low-key chefs: "[Chicago chef] Grant Achatz is very reserved and quiet—you won't see him on the show this season, but he's such a wonderful cook."



## Arianna bears all

Writer Arianna Huffington is widely known for her strong political voice.

Perhaps that's why Fox has tapped her to voice a talking bear on the "Family Guy" spin-off "The Cleveland Show" according to [huffingtonpost.com](http://huffingtonpost.com).

Huffington's character, Arianna, is a member of a family of talking bears that neighbor Cleveland's new home. Her husband, Tim, is voiced by "Family Guy" creator Seth MacFarlane. The show is set to debut in fall 2009.



## McGraw does NYC

Does Tim McGraw have what it takes to show you the funny? The country crooner is on board to host "Saturday Night Live" on

Nov. 22, his rep tells The Associated Press. The "Live Like You Were Dying" singer joins the elite company of other country singers who have hosted the show—Garth Brooks, Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson and Dolly Parton.

Oh, and he also is co-starring with Vince Vaughn and Reese Witherspoon in the upcoming "Four Christmases," due out later this month.



Spears guest stars on "How I Met Your Mother"

CBS

## Britney good, bad news

If that music career doesn't work out, Britney Spears can always fall back on acting.

Spears was nominated for a People's Choice award in the Favorite Scene Stealing Guest Star category for her role in "How I Met Your Mother," according to the People's Choice voting Web site.

Meanwhile, Spears' son Jayden was admitted into a Mississippi hospital Sunday due to "a reaction to something he ingested," a rep for Spears said in a statement posted on [britneyspears.com](http://britneyspears.com). He is expected to be discharged Tuesday.